LETTERS

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WRITTEN BY

THE LATE RIGHT HONOURABLE
PHILIP DORMER STANHOPE,

Earl of Chesterfield,

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PHILIP STANHOPE, Efg;

Late Envoy Extraordinary at the Court of DRESDEN.

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LETTERS

WRITTEN BY

THE LATE RIGHT HONOURABLE

PHILIP DORMER STANHOPE,

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Late Locos, Estadolinary at the Court of Drainnent

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IN FOUR VOLUMES

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VOL. IV.

Printed for J. DODSLEY in Park-Mars

M DCCLXXIV.

LETTERS

WRITTEN BY

THE LATE RIGHT HONOURABLE

PHILIP DORMER STANHOPE,

Earl of Chesterfield,

TO

H 1 S S O N,

PHILIP STANHOPE, Efq;

Late Envoy Extraordinary at the Court of DRESDEN:

TOGETHER WITH

SEVERAL OTHER PIECES
ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS.

PUBLISHED BY

Mrs. EUGENIA STANHOPE,

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

THE FIFTH EDITION.

V O L. IV.

LONDON:
Printed for J. DODSLEY in PALL-MALL

M.DCC.LXXIV.

MISCELLIANEOUS PIECESH 351 government the connections we have formed and are the motives that occified our figures. Who would have although the part of the have my control in the However the decement in ourward apprivances the distance point from your you view me, is in for being undarline noteticy of tenaints, It has from La Village worden with order of tingents, mound criming their primary out the energy indeficate fact are the that were got the not The transmitted for which the state of the thirty of the state of the confluent or to seem a new to the first total have burnlity to own. the second of a second of the second of the second . Karaa 4 33 foch as I am your I sol min let I Menanciati oorma the state of the state of TO STAN STAN STAN THOU TO THE WORLD SHIPE outer and the second second second second British a port of the stay of the man a stay of the Alumination of the first the application with the state of a specific and the over the average of the party of the contract Were that an other, what were reasons and added you as all was stated a state of the continues, into a rest to the state of the state of the same known King at the state of the same state of the sam you had to come in the state of knowledge of app to standard could fill the room sure some they may remark the continuence continuence. that the bear prompt of appropriate and not red to The state of the state of the state was erla

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LORD CHESTERFIELD's

LETTERS.

LETTER CCLXI.

Bath, November the 28th, 175%

MY DEAR FRIEND,

INCE my last to you, I have read Madame Maintenon's letters; I am fure they are genuine, and they both entertained and informed me. They have brought me acquainted with the character of that able and artful Lady; whom I am convinced that I now know much better than her diretteur the Abbé de Fenelon (afterwards Archbishop of Cambray) did, when he wrote her the 185th letter; and I know him the better too for that letter. The Abbé, though brimful of the divine love, had a great mind to be first Minister, and Cardinal, in order, no doubt, to have an opportunity of doing the more good. His being directeur at that time to Madame Maintenon, feemed to be a good step towards those views. She put herself Vol. IV. upon

upon him for a faint, and he was weak enough to believe it; he, on the other hand, would have but himself upon her for a faint too, which, I dare fay, fhe did not believe; but both of them knew, that it was necessary for them to appear faints to Lewis the XIV, who they were very fure was a bigot. It is to be prefumed nay, indeed, it is plain by that 185th letter that Madame Maintenon had hinted to her directeur fome scruples of conscience, with relation to her commerce with the King; and which I humbly apprehend to have been only some scruples of prudence, at once to flatter the bigot character. and increase the defires of the King. The pious Abbé, frightened out of his wits left the King should impute to the directeur any feruples or difficulties which he might meet with on the part of the Lady, writes her the above-mentioned letter; in which he not only bids her, not teaze the King by advice and exhortations, but to have the utmost submission to his will; and, that the may not mistake the nature of that submission, he tells her, it is the same that Sarah had for Abraham; to which submission Isaac perhaps was owing. No bawd could have written a more feducing letter to an innocent country girl, than the directeur did to his penitente; who, I dare fay, had no occasion for his good advice. Those who would justify the good directeur, alias the pimp, in this affair, must not attempt to do it, by faying, that the King and Madame Maintenon were at that time privately married; that the directeur knew it; and that this was the meaning of his evigme. That 600 idinably B .2 is

is absolutely impossible; for that private marriage must have removed all scruples between the parties; nay, could not have been contracted upon any other principle, fince it was kept private, and confequently prevented no public fcandal. It is therefore extremely evident, that Madame Maintenon could not be married to the King, at the time when she scrupled grantifig, and when the directeur advised her to grant! those favours which Sarah with so much submission granted to Abraham: and what the directeur is pleased to call le mystere de Dieu, was most evidently a state of concubinage. The letters are very well worth your reading; they throw light upon many things of those times. I've and the more than the state

I have just received a letter from Sir William Stanhope, from Lyons; in which he tells me that he faw you at Paris, that he thinks you a little grown, but that you do not make the most of it, for that you stoop still; d'ailleurs his letter was a panegyric of your

The young Comte de Schullemburg, the Chambellan whom you knew at Hanover, is come over with the King, et fait auffi vos élogés.

Though, as I told you in my last, I have done buying pictures, by way of virtu, yet there are fome portraits of remarkable people that would tempt me. For instance, if you could by chance pick up at Paris, at a reasonable price, and undoubted origihals (whether heads, half lengths, or whole lengths, no matter) of Cardinals Richelieu, Mazarin, and Rerze Monfieur de Turenne, le grand Prince de Condé suMesdames de Montespan, de Fontanges, de Montbazon,

B 2

Montbazon, de Sevigné, de Maintenon, de Chevreuse, de Longueville, d'Olonne, &c. I should be tempted to purchase them. I am sensible that they can only be met with, by great accident, at family sales and auctions, fo I only mention the affair to you eventually was not been at

I do not understand, or else I do not remember, what affair you mean in your last letter; which you think will come to nothing, and for which, you fay, I had once a mind that you should take the road

again. Explain it to me.

I shall go to town in four or five days, and carry back with me a little more hearing than I brought: but yet, not half enough for common ufe. wants ready pocket money much oftener than one wants great fums; and, to use a very odd expresfion, I want to hear at fight. I love every-day fenses, every-day wit and entertainment; a man who is only good on holydays, is good for very little.

Adieu.

R CCLXII.

The horace that he was the properties.

London, New-Year's-Day, 1753.

appy you are talkshed MY DEAR FRIEND,

T is now above a fortnight fince I have received a letter from you. I hope, however, that you are well, but engroffed by the business of Lord Albemarle's bureau in the mornings, and by business of

nor

a genteeler nature in the evenings; for I willingly give up my own fatisfaction to your improvement, either in business or manners.

Here have been lately imported from Paris two gentlemen, who, I find, were much acquainted with you there; Comte Sinzendorf, and Monfieur Clairaut, the Academician. The former is a very pretty man, well-bred, and with a great deal of useful knowledge; for those two things are very consistent. I examined him about you, thinking him a competent judge. He told me, que vous parliez l'Allemand comme un Allemand; que vous sçaviez le droit public de l'Empire parfaitement bien; que vous aviez le goût sur, et des connoissances fort étendues. I told him, that I knew all this very well; but that I wanted to know whether you had l'air, les manieres, les attentions, enfin le brillant d'un bonnête bomme : his answer was, Mais oui en vérité, c'est fort bien. This, you fee, is but cold, in comparison of what I do wish, and of what you ought to wish. Your friend Clairaut interposed, and said, Mais je vous assure qu'il est fort poli; to which I answered, Je le crois bien, vis-a-vis des Lapons vos amis; je vous recuse pour Juge, jusqu'à ce que vous aïez été délaponné, au moins dix ans, parmi les bonnêtes gens. These testimonies in your favour are fuch as perhaps you are fatisfied with, and think fufficient: but I am not: they are only the cold depositions of disinterested and unconcerned witnesses, upon a strict examination. When, upon a trial, a man calls witnesses to his character, and those witnesses only say, that they never heard,

B 3

nor do not know any ill of him; it intimates at best a neutral and insignificant, though innocent character. Now I want, and you ought to endeavour, that les agrémens, les graces, les attentions, &c. should be a distinguishing part of your character, and specified of you by people unasked. I wish to hear people say of you, ab qu'il est aimable! Quelles manieres, quelles graces, quel art de plaire! Nature, thank God, has given you all the powers necessary; and if she has not yet, I hope in God she will give you the will of exerting them.

I have lately read, with great pleasure, Voltaire's two little Histories of les Croisades, and l'Esprit bumain; which I recommend to your perusal, if you have not already read them. They are bound up with a most poor performance, called Micromigas, which is faid to be Voltaire's too; but I cannot be-Lieve it, it is so very unworthy of him: it confifts only of thoughts stolen from Swift, but miserably mangled and disfigured. But his History of the Croifades shows in a very short and strong light, the most immoral and wicked scheme, that was ever contrived by knaves, and executed by madmen and fools against humanity. There is a strange, but never-failing relation, between honest madmen and skilful knaves; and wherever one meets with collected numbers of the former, one may be very fure that they are secretly directed by the latter. The Popes, who have generally been both the ablest and the greatest knaves in Europe, wanted all the power and money of the East: for they had all that was

In Europe already. The times and the minds favoured their design, for they were dark and uninformed; and Peter the Hermit, at once a knave and a madman, was a fine papal tool for so wild and wicked an undertaking. I wish we had good histories of every part of Europe, and indeed of the world, written upon the plan of Voltaire's de l'Esprit bumain; for, I own, I am provoked at the contempt which most historians show for humanity in general; one would think by them, that the whole human species consisted but of about a hundred and sifty people, called and dignissed (commonly very undeservedly too) by the titles of Emperors, Kings, Popes, Generals, and Ministers,

I have never seen in any of the news-papers, any mention of the affairs of the Cevennes, or Grenoble, which you gave me an account of some time ago; and the Duke de Mirepoix pretends, at least, to know nothing of either. Were they false reports; or does the French Court chuse to stifle them? I hope that they are both true, because I am very willing, that the cares of the French government should be employed and confined to themselves.

Your friend, the Electress Palatine, has sent me fix wild boars heads, and other pièces de sa chasse, in return for the fans, which she approved of extremely. This present was signified to me by one Mr. Harold, who wrote me a letter in very indifferent English; I suppose he is a Dane, who has been in England,

Mr. Harte came to town yesterday, and dined with

CICIAC

me to-day. We talked you over; and I can affure you, that though a Parson, and no member du beau monde, he thinks all the most shining accomplishments of it full as necessary for you, as I do. His expression was, that is all that he wants; but if he wants that, considering his situation and destination, he might as well want every thing else.

This is the day when people reciprocally offer, and receive the kindest and the warmest wishes, though, in general, without meaning them on one side, or believing them on the other. They are formed by the head, in compliance with custom, though disavowed by the heart, in consequence of nature. His wishes upon this occasion are the best, that are the best turned; you do not, I am sure, doubt the truth of mine, and therefore I will express them with a Quaker-like simplicity. May this new year be a very new one indeed to you; may you put off the old, and put on the new man! but I mean the outward, not the inward man. With this alteration, I might justly sum up all my wishes for you in these words,

Dii tibi dent annos, de te nam cætera sumes.

This minute, I receive your letter of the 26th past, which gives me a very disagreeable reason for your late silence. By the symptoms which you mention of your illness, I both hope and believe, that it was wholly owing to your own want of care. You are rather inclined to be fat, you have naturally a good stomach, and you eat at the best tables; which must

of course make you plethoric: and, upon my word, you will be subject to these accidents, if you will not from time to time, when you find yourfelf full, heated, or your head aching, take fome little easy preventive purge, that would not confine you; fuch as chewing a little rhubarb, when you go to bed at night, or fome fenna-tea in the morning. You do very well to live extremely low, for fome time; and I could wish, though I do not expect it, that you would take one gentle vomit: for those giddinesses, and swimmings in the head, always proceed from some foulness of the stomach. However, upon the whole, I am very glad that your old complaint has not mixed itself with this: which, I am fully convinced, arises singly from your own negligence. Adieu.

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LETTER CCLXIII.

London, January the 15th, 1753.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

NEVER think my time so well employed, as when I think it employed to your advantage. You have long had the greatest share of it; you now engross it. The moment is now decisive; the piece is going to be exhibited to the public; the mere out-lines, and the general colouring, are not sufficient

cient to attract the eyes, and to secure applause; but the last finishing, artful, and delicate strokes, are necessary. Skilful judges will discern, and acknowledge their merit; the ignorant will, without knowing why, feel their power. In that view, I have thrown together, for your use, the enclosed Maxims *; or, to speak more properly, observations on men and things; for I have no merit as to the invention: I am no system-monger; and, instead of giving way to my imagination, I have only confulted my memory; and my conclusions are all drawn from facts, not from fancy. Most maxim-mongers have preferred the prettiness to the justness of a thought, and the turn to the truth; but I have refused myself to every thing that my own experience did not justify and confirm. I wish you would consider them serioully, and separately, and recur to them again pro renata in fimilar cases. Young men are as apt to think themselves wife enough, as drunken men are to think themselves sober enough. They look upon spirit to be a much better thing than experience; which they call coldness. They are but half miftaken; for though spirit, without experience, is dangerous, experience, without spirit, is languid and defective. Their union, which is very rare, is perfection: you may join them, if you please; for all my experience is at your fervice; and I do not defire one grain of your spirit in return. Use them both; and let them reciprocally animate and check each

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and good breeding toward; thote, who one knows diffike, fresh, and insure one as far as they can

other. I mean here, by the spirit of youth, only the vivacity and prefumption of youth; which hinder them from feeing the difficulties, or dangers of an undertaking; but I do not mean, what the filly vulgar call spirit, by which they are captious, jealous of their rank, fuspicious of being undervalued, and tart (as they call it) in their repartees, upon the flightest occasions. This is an evil, and a very filly fpirit, which should be driven out, and transferred to an herd of fwine. This is not the spirit of a man of fashion, who has kept good company. People of an ordinary, low education, when they happen to fall into good-company, imagine themselves the only object of its attention; if the company whispers, it is, to be fure, concerning them, if they laugh, it is at them; and if any thing ambiguous, that by the most forced interpretation can be applied to them, happens to be faid, they are convinced that it was meant at them; upon which they grow out of countenance first, and then angry. This mistake is very well ridiculed in the Stratagem, where Scrub fays, I am fure they talked of me, for they laughed confumedly. A well-bred man feldom thinks, but never feems to think, himself slighted, undervalued, or laughed at in company, unless where it is so plainly marked out, that his honour obliges him to refent it in a proper manner; mais les bonnêtes gens ne se boudent jamais. I will admit, that it is very difficult to command one's felf enough, to behave with case, frankness, and good-breeding towards those, who one knows dislike, slight, and injure one as far as they can without othe

without personal consequences; but I affert, that it is absolutely necessary to do it : you must embrace the man you hate, if you cannot be justified in knocking him down; for otherwise you avow the injury, which you cannot revenge. A prudent Cuckold (and there are many fuch at Paris) pockets his horns, when he cannot gore with them; and will not add to the triumph of his maker, by only butting with them ineffectually. A feeming ignorance is very often a most necessary part of worldly knowledge. It is, for instance, commonly advisable to seem ignorant of what people offer to tell you; and, when they fay, Have not you heard of fuch a thing? to answer, No, and to let them go on, though you know it already. Some have a pleafure in telling it, because they think that they tell it well; others have a pride in it, as being the fagacious discoverers; and many have a vanity in showing that they have been, though very undefervedly, trufted: all these would be disappointed, and consequently displeafed, if you faid, Yes. Seem always ignorant (unless to one most intimate friend) of all matters of private scandal and defamation, though you should hear them a thousand times; for the parties affected always look upon the receiver to be almost as bad as the thief: and, whenever they become the topic of conversation, seem to be a sceptic, though you are really a ferious believer; and always take the extenuating part. But all this feeming ignorance should be joined to thorough and extensive private informations: and, indeed, it is the best method

method of procuring them; for most people have fuch a vanity, in showing a superiority over others, though but for a moment, and in the merest trifles, that they will tell you what they should not, rather than not show that they can tell what you did not know: besides that such seeming ignorance will make you pass for incurious, and consequently undefigning. However, fish for facts, and take pains to be well informed of every thing that passes; but fish judiciously, and not always, nor indeed often, in the shape of direct questions; which always put people upon their guard, and, often repeated, grow tiresome. But sometimes take the things that you would know, for granted; upon which fomebody will, kindly and officiously, fet you right: fometimes fay, that you have heard fo and fo; and at other times feem to know more than you do, in order to know all that you want: but avoid direct questioning, as much as you can. All these neceffary arts of the world require constant attention, presence of mind, and coolness. Achilles, though invulnerable, never went to battle but completely armed. Courts are to be the theatres of your wars. where you fhould be always as completely armed. and even with the addition of a heel-piece. The least inartention, the least distraction, may prove fatal. I would fain see you what pedants call omnis bomo, and what Pope much better calls all-accomplished: you have the means in your power, add the will, and you may bring it about. The vulgar have a coarse saying, of spoiling a bog for a halfpertry worth

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of tar: prevent the application, by providing the tar; it is very eafily to be had, in comparison with what you have already got.

The fine Mrs. Pitt, who, it feems, faw you often at Paris, speaking of you the other day, faid, in French, for she speaks little English

whether it is that you did not pay the homage due to her beauty, or that it did not strike you as it does others, I cannot determine; but I hope the had some other reason than truth, for saying it. I will suppose that you did not care a pin for her; but, however, the furely deserved a degree of propitiatory adoration from you, which I am afraid you neglected. Had I been in your case, I should have endeavoured. at leaft, to have supplanted Mr. Mackay in his office of nocturnal reader to her. I played at cards, two days ago, with your friend Mrs. Fitzgerald, and her most sublime mother, Mrs. Seagrave; they both inquired after you: and Mrs. Fitzgerald faid, the hoped you went on with your dancing; I faid Yes, and that you affured me, you had made fuch confiderable improvements in it, that you had now learned to stand still, and even upright. Your virtuofa, la Signora Vestri, sung here the other day, with great applause: I presume you are intimately acquainted with her merit. Good night to you, whoever you pais it with in tops of the your start of the paint of the pa

Thave this moment received a packet, fealed word in merinal with

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with your feal, though not directed by your hand, for Lady Hervey. No letter from you! Are you not well?

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LETTER CCLXIV.

London, May the 27th, O. S. 1753.

MY DEAR FRIEND, Seine Part Tomber 1 , 25 Lett 2908

Have this day been tired, jaded, nay tormented, by the company of a most worthy, sensible, and learned man, a near relation of mine, who dined and passed the evening with me. This feems a paradox, but is a plain truth: he has no knowledge of the world, no manners, no address; far from talking without book, as is commonly faid of people who talk fillily, he only talks by book; which, in general conversation, is ten times worfe. He has formed in his own closet, from books, certain systems of every thing, argues tenaciously upon those principles, and is both furprifed and angry at whatever deviates from them. His theories are good, but, unfortunately, are all impracticable. Why? Because he has only read, and not converfed. He is acquainted with books, and an absolute stranger to men. Labouring with his matter, he is delivered of it with pangs; he hesitates, stops in his utterance, and always expresses himself inelegantly. His actions are all ungraceful; fo that, with all his merit and know-

16 LORD CHESTERFIELD'S LETTERS

ledge. I would rather converse fix hours with the most frivolous tittle-tattle woman, who knew something of the world, than with him. The prepofterous notions of a systematical man, who does not know the world, tire the patience of a man who does. It would be endless to correct his mistakes, nor would he take it kindly; for he has confidered every thing deliberately, and is very fure that he is in the right. Impropriety is a characteristic, and a neverfailing one, of these people. Regardless, because ignorant, of custom and manners, they violate them every moment. They often shock, though they never mean to offend; never attending either to the general character, or the particular diftinguishing circumstances of the people to whom, or before whom they talk: whereas the knowledge of the world teaches one, that the very fame things, which are exceedingly right and proper in one company, time, and place, are exceedingly abfurd in others, In thort, a man who has great knowledge, from experience and observation, of the characters, customs, and manners of mankind, is a being as different from, and as superior to a man of mere book and fystematical knowledge, as a well-managed horse is to an ass. Study therefore, cultivate, and frequent men and women; not only in their outward, and consequently guarded, but in their interior, domestic, and confequently lefs difguifed, characters and manners. Take your notions of things, as by obfervation and experience you find they really are, and not as you read that they are or should be; for they never

never are quite what they should be. For this purpole, do not content yourfelf with general and common acquaintance; but, wherever you can, establish yourfelf, with a kind of domestic familiarity, in good houses. For instance, go again to Orli, for two or three days, and fo at two or three reprifes. Go and stay two or three days at a time at Verfailles, and improve and extend the acquaintance you have there. Be at home at St. Cloud; and, whenever any private person of fashion invites you to pass a few days at his country-house, accept of the invitation. This will necessarily give you a versatility of mind, and a facility to adopt various manners and customs; for every body defires to please those in whose house they are; and people are only to be pleafed in their own way. Nothing is more engaging than a chearful and eafy conformity to people's particular manners, habits, and even weakneffes; nothing (to use a vulgar expression) should come amis to a young fellow. He should be, for good purposes, what Alcibiades was commonly for bad ones, a Proteus, affuming with eafe, and wearing with chearfulness, any shape. Heat, cold, luxury, abstinence, gravity, gaiety, ceremony, eafiness, learning, triffing, business, and pleafure, are modes which he should be able to take. lay afide, or change occasionally, with as much ease as he would take or lay aside his hat. All this is only to be acquired by use and knowledge of the world, by keeping a great deal of company, analyling every character, and infinuating yourfelf into the familiarity of various acquaintance. A right, a generous am-VOL. IV. bition

bition to make a figure in the world, necessarily gives the defire of pleafing; the defire of pleafing points out, to a great degree, the means of doing it; and the art of pleasing is, in truth, the art of rising, of diftinguishing one's-felf, of making a figure and a fortune in the world. But without pleafing, without the Graces, as I have told you a thousand times, ogni fatica è vana. You are now but nineteen, an age at which most of your countrymen are illiberally getting drunk in Port, at the University. You have greatly got the start of them in learning; and, if you can equally get the flart of them in the knowledge and manners of the world, you may be very fure of outrunning them in Court and Parliament, as you fet out so much earlier than they. They generally begin but to fee the world at one-and-twenty; you will by that age have feen all Europe. They fet out upon their travels unlicked cubs; and in their travels they only lick one another, for they feldom go into any other company. They know nothing but the English world, and the worst part of that too, and generally very little of any but the English language; and they come home, at three or fourand-twenty, refined and polished (as is faid in one of Congreve's plays) like Dutch skippers from a whale-fishing. The care which has been taken of you, and (to do you justice) the care you have taken of yourself, has left you, at the age of nineteen only, nothing to acquire but the knowledge of the world, manners, address, and those exterior accomplishments. But they are great and necessary acquisitions,

tions, to those who have sense enough to know their true value; and your getting them before you are one-and-twenty, and before you enter upon the active and shining scene of life, will give you such an advantage over all your cotemporaries; that they cannot overtake you; they must be distanced. You may probably be placed about a young Prince, who will probably be a young King. There all the various arts of pleafing, the engaging address, the versatility of manners, the brillant, the Graces, will outweigh and yet outrun all folid knowledge and unpolished merit. Oil yourself therefore, and be both supple and shining, for that race, if you would be first, or early, at the goal. Ladies will most probably too, have formething to fay there; and those who are best with them, will probably be best somewhere elfe. Labour this great point, my dear child, indefatigably; attend to the very smallest parts, the minutest graces, the most trifling circumstances, that can possibly concur in forming the shining character of a complete Gentleman, un galant homme, un bomme de cour, a man of business and pleasure; estimé des bommes, recherché des femmes, aimé de tout le monde. In this view, observe the shining part of every man of fashion, who is liked and esteemed; attend to, and imitate that particular accomplishment for which you hear him chiefly celebrated and diftinguished: then collect those various parts, and make yourfelf a Mofaic of the whole. No one body possesses every thing, and almost every body possesses some one thing worthy of imitation: only chuse your models

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20 LORD CHESTERFIELD'S LETTERS

dels well; and, in order to do so, chuse by your ear more than by your eye. The best model is always that which is most universally allowed to be the best, though in strictness it may possibly not be so. We must take most things as they are, we cannot make them what we would, nor often what they should be; and, where moral duties are not concerned, it is more prudent to follow, than to attempt to lead. Adieu.

Lor E T T E R CCLXV.

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inclicity of undivisited hydian, the Graces will

Bath, October the 3d, 1753.

MY DEAR FRIEND, My Ment Man Man Const

You have set out well at the Hague; you are in love with Madame Munter, which I am very glad of: you are in the fine company there, and I hope one of it; for it is not enough, at your age, to be merely in good company; but you should, by your address and attentions, make that good company think you one of them. There is a tribute due to beauty, even independently of farther views; which tribute I hope you paid with alacrity to Madame Munter and Madame Degenfeldt: depend upon it they expected it, and were offended in proportion as that tribute seemed either unwillingly or scantily paid. I believe my friend Kreuningen admits nobody now to his table, for fear of their communicating the plague to him, or at least the bite of a

mad

mad dog. Pray profit of the entrées libres, that the French Embassador has given you; frequent him, and heak to him. I think you will not do amis to call upon Mr. Burrish, at Aix la Chapelle, since it is so little out of your way; and you will do still better, if you would, which I know you will not, drink those waters, for five or fix days only, to scour' your stomach and bowels a little: I am fure it would do you a great deal of good. Mr. Burrish can doubtless give you the best letters to Munich; and he will naturally give you fome to Comte Preyfing, or Comte Sinsheim, and such fort of grave people; but I could wish that you would ask him for some to young fellows of pleafure, or fashionable coquettes, that you may be dans l'honnête débauche de Munich. A propos of your future motions; I leave you in a great measure the master of them, for shall only fuggest my thoughts to you upon that subject.

You have three Electoral Courts in view, Bonn, Munich, and Manheim. I would advise you to see two of them rather cursorily, and fix your tabernacle at the third, whichever that may be, for a considerable time. For instance, should you chuse (as I fancy you will) to make Manheim the place of your residence, stay only ten or twelve days at Bonn, and as long at Munich, and then go and fix at Manheim: and so, vice versa, if you should like Bonn or Munich better than you think you would Manheim; make that the place of your residence, and only visit the other two. It is certain that no man can be much pleased himself, or please others much,

in any place where he is only a bird of passage for eight or ten days; neither party thinking it worth while to make an acquaintance, still less to form any connection, for fo fhort a time: but when months are the case, a man may domesticate himself pretty well; and very foon not be looked upon as a stranger. This is the real utility of travelling, when, by contracting a familiarity at any place, you get into the infide of it, and fee it in its undress. That is the only way of knowing the customs, the manners, and all the little characteriffical peculiarities, that diffinguish one place from another: but then this familiarity is not to be brought about by cold, formal visits of half an hour; no; you must show a willingness, a desire, an impatience, of forming connections, il faut s'y prêter, et y mettre du liant, du déser de plaire. Whatever you do approve, you must be lavish in your praises of; and you must learn to commend what you do not approve of, if it is approved of thère. You are not much given to praise, I know; but it is because you do not yet know, how extremely people are engaged by a feeming fanction to their own opinions, prejudices, and weaknesses, even in the merest trisles. Our self-love is mortified, when we think our opinions, and even our tastes, customs, and dreffes, either arraigned or condemned; as, on the contrary, it is tickled and flattered by approbation. I will give you a remarkable instance of this The famous Earl of Shaftesbury, in the flagitious reign of Charles the Second, while he was Chancellor, had a mind to be a Favourite as well as

a Minister of the King; in order therefore to please His Majesty, whose prevailing passion was women, my Lord kept a we, whom he had no occasion for, and made no manner of use of. The King soon heard of it, and asked him if it was true; he owned it was; but that, though he kept that one woman, he had feveral others besides, for he loved variety. A few days afterwards, the King, at his public levee, faw Lord Shaftesbury at some distance, and faid in the circle, " One would not think that that little, " weak man is the greatest whore-master in England; " but I can affure you that he is." Upon Lord Shaftefbury's coming into the circle, there was a general fmile; the King said, "This is concerning you, my "Lord." "Me, Sir!" answered the Chancellor, with some surprise. "Yes, you," answered the King; " for I had just faid, that you were the " greatest whore-master in England: Is it not " true?" "Of a subject, Sir," replied Lord Shaftesbury, "perhaps I am." It is the same in every thing; we think a difference of opinion, of conduct, of manners, a tacit reproach, at least, upon our own; we must therefore use ourselves to a ready conformity to whatever is neither criminal nor dishonourable. Whoever differs from any general custom, is supposed both to think, and proclaim himself wifer than the rest of the world; which the rest of the world cannot bear, especially in a young man, A young fellow is always forgiven, and often applauded, when he carries a fashion to an excess; but never if he stops short of it. The first is ascribed

24 LORD CHESTERFIELD'S LETTERS

affectation of fingularity, or superiority. At your age, one is allowed to outrer fashion, dress, vivacity, gallantry, &c. but by no means to be behind hand in any one of them. And one may apply to youth in this case, Si non errasset, secerat ille minus. Adieu.

LETTER CCLXVI

Bath, October the 19th, 1753.

had fryeral others bendes, for its

MY DEAR FRIEND,

F all the various ingredients that compose the useful and necessary art of pleasing, no one is fo effectual and engaging, as that gentleness, that douceur of countenance and manners, to which you are no stranger, though (God knows why) a sworn enemy. Other people take great pains to conceal, or disguise, their natural imperfections; some, by the make of their clothes, and other arts, endeavour to conceal the defects of their shape; women, who unfortunately have natural bad complexions, lay on good ones; and both men and women, upon whom unkind nature has inflicted a furliness and ferocity of countenance, do at least all they can, though often without fuccess, to soften and mitigate it; they affect douceur, and aim at fmiles, though often in the attempt, like the Devil in Milton, they grin borribly, a ghaftly smile. But you are the only person I ever knew, in the whole course of my life, who not only disdain, disdain, but absolutely reject and disguise a great advantage, that nature has kindly granted. You easily guess I mean countenance; for the has given you a very pleasing one; but you beg to be excused, you will not accept it; on the contrary, take fingular pains to put on the most funeste, forbidding, and unpleafing one, that can possibly be imagined. This one would think impossible; but you know it to be true. If you imagine that it gives you a manly, thoughtful, and decifive air, as fome, though very few of your countrymen do, you are most exceedingly mistaken; for it is at best the air of a German corporal, part of whose exercise is to look fierce, and to blasemeer-op. You will say, perhaps, What am I always to be studying my countenance, in order to wear this douceur? I answer, No, do it but for a fortnight, and you never will have occasion to think of it more. Take but half the pains to recover the countenance that nature gave you, that you must have taken to difguise and deform it as you have, and the business will be done. Accustom your eyes to a certain foftness, of which they are very capable, and your face to fmiles, which become it more than most faces I know. Give all your motions too, an air of douceur, which is directly the reverse of their present celerity and rapidity. I wish you would adopt a little of l'air du Couvent (you very well know what I mean) to a certain degree; it has fomething extremely engaging; there is a mixture of benevolence, affection, and unction in it: it is frequently really fincere, but it is almost always thought so, and confequently

quently pleasing. Will you call this trouble? It will not be half an hour's trouble to you in a week's time. But suppose it be, pray tell me, why did your give yourfelf the trouble of learning to dance for well as you do? It is neither a religious, moral, or civil duty. You must own, that you did it then fingly to please, and you were in the right on't. Why do you wear fine clothes, and curl your hair? Both are troublesome; lank locks, and plain slimsy rags, are much easier. This then you also do in order to please, and you do very right. But then, for God's fake, reason and act consequentially; and endeavour to please in other things too, still more essential; and without which the trouble you have taken in those is wholly thrown away. You show your dancing, perhaps, fix times a year, at most; but you show your countenance, and your common motions, every day, and all day. Which then, I appeal to yourfelf, ought you to think of the most, and care to render easy, graceful, and engaging? Douceur of countenance and gesture, can alone make them so. You are by no means ill-natured; and would you then most unjustly be reckoned fo? Yet your common countenance intimates, and would make any body, who did not know you, believe it. A propos of this; I must tell you what was faid the other day to a fine lady whom you know, who is very good-natured in truth, but whose common countenance implies ill-nature, even to brutality. It was Miss H-n, Lady M-y's niece, whom you have feen both at Blackheath and at Lady Hervey's. Lady M-y was faying to me, that

that you had a very engaging countenance when you had a mind to it, but that you had not always that mind, upon which Miss Hon faid, that the liked your countenance best, when it was as glum as her own. Why then, replied Lady M-y, you two fhould marry; for, while you both wear your world countenances, nobody else will venture upon either of you; and they call her now Mrs. Stanhope. To complete this donceur of countenance and motions, which I fo earneftly recommend to you, you should carry it also to your expressions, and manner of thinking, mettez y toujours de l'affectueux, de l'onction; take the gentle, the favourable, the indulgent fide of most questions. I own, that the manly and sub-Hime John Trott, your countryman, feldom does; but, to flow his fpirit and decision, takes the rough and harff fide, which he generally adorns with an oath, to feem more formidable. This he only thinks fine; for, to do John justice, he is commonly as good-natured as any body. These are among the many little things which you have not, and I have lived long enough in the world to know of what infinite consequence they are, in the course of life. Reason then, I repeat it again, within yourself consequentially; and let not the pains you have taken, and still take, to please in some things, be a pure perte, by your negligence of, and inattention to others, of much less trouble, and much more consequence.

I have been of late much engaged, or rather bewildered, in Oriental history, particularly that of the Jews, fince the destruction of their temple, and their

their dispersion by Titus; but the confusion and uncertainty of the whole, and the monstrous extravagancies and falsehoods of the greatest part of it, difgusted me extremely. Their Thalmud, their Mischna, their Targums, and other traditions and writings of their Rabbins and Doctors, who were most of them Cabalifts, are really more extravagant and abfurd, if possible, than all that you have read in Comte de Gabalis; and indeed most of his stuff is taken from them. Take this fample of their nonfense, which is transmitted in the writings of one of their most considerable Rabbins, "One Abas Saul, a man of ten feet high, was digging a grave, and happened to find the eye of Goliah, in which he thought proper to bury himself, and so he did, all but his head, which the Giant's eye was unfortunately not quite deep enough to receive." This, I affure you, is the most modest lye of ten thousand. I have also read the Turkish History, which, excepting the re-· ligious part, is not fabulous, though very possibly not true. For the Turks, having no notion of letters, and being, even by their religion, forbid the use of them, except for reading and transcribing the Koran; they have no historians of their own, nor any authentic records or memorials for other historians to work upon: so that what histories we have of that country, are written by foreigners; as Platina, Sir Paul Rycaut, Prince Cantemir, &c. or else fnatches only of particular and short periods, by some who happened to refide there at those times: fuch as Busbequius, whom I have just finished. I like him.

as far as he goes, much the best of any of them: but then his account is, properly, only an account of his own embaffy, from the Emperor Charles the Vth to Solyman the Magnificent. However, there he gives, episodically, the best account I know, of the customs and manners of the Turks, and of the nature of that government, which is a most extraordinary one. For, despotic as it always seems, and fometimes is, it is in truth a military republic; and the real power relides in the Janissaries; who fometimes order their Sultan to strangle his Vizir, and fometimes the Vizir to depose or strangle his Sultan, according as they happen to be angry at the one or the other. I own, I am glad that the capital strangler should, in his turn, be strangle-able, and now and then strangled; for I know of no brute so fierce, nor criminal fo guilty, as the creature called a Sovereign, whether King, Sultan, or Sophy, who thinks himself, either by divine or human right, vested with an absolute power of destroying his fellow-creatures; or who, without inquiring into his right, lawlefsly exerts that power. The most excusable of all those human monsters, are the Turks, whose religion teaches them inevitable fatalism. A propos of the Turks; my Loyola, I pretend, is superior to your Perhaps you think this impossible, and wonder who this Loyola is. Know then, that I have had a Barbet brought me from France, so exactly like Sultan, that he has been mistaken for him feveral times; only his fnout is shorter, and his ears longer

20 LORD CHESTERFIELD'S LETTERS

longer than Sultan's. He has also the acquired knowledge of Sultan; and I am apt to think that he studied under the same master at Paris. His habit, and his white band, show him to be an Ecclesiastic; and his begging, which he does very earnestly, proves him to be of a Mendicant order; which, added to his stattery and infinuation, make him supposed to be a Jesuit, and have acquired him the name of Loyola. I must not omit too, that, when he breaks wind, he smells exactly like Sultan.

I do not yet hear one jot the better for all my bathings and pumpings, though I have been here already full half my time; I consequently go very little into company, being very little fit for any. I hope you keep company enough for us both; you will get more by that, than I shall by all my reading. I read singly to amuse myself, and fill up my time, of which I have too much; but you have two much better reasons for going into company, Pleasure and Prosit. May you find a great deal of both, in a great deal of company! Adieu.

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nious as you can. I need not, I am fure, telt you, -sla L Bra Tod Tla Bwak nan CCLXVII. today

ganey of differs adorns the belt thoughts, and bal-London, November the 20th, 1753.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

of Commons it is

31 Sp. to the ly

WO mails are now due from Holland, so that I have no letter from you to acknowledge; but that, you know by long experience, does not hinder my writing to you: I always receive your letters with pleafure; but I mean, and endeavour, that you should receive mine with some profit, preferring always your advantage to my own pleafure.

If you find yourfelf well fettled and naturalized at Manheim, stay there some time, and do not leave a certain for an uncertain good: but if you think you shall be as well, or better established at Munich, go there as foon as you please; and if disappointed, you can always return to Manheim. I mentioned, in a former letter, your passing the Carnival at Berlin, which I think may be both useful and pleasing to you; however, do as you will; but let me know what you refolve. That King and that country have, and will have, so great a share in the affairs of Europe, that they are well worth being thoroughly known.

Whether, where you are now, or ever may be hereafter, you speak French, German, or English most, I earnestly recommend to you a particular attention to the propriety and elegancy of your style: employ the best words you can find in the language, avoid cacophony, and make your periods as harmo-

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nious as you can. I need not, I am fure, tell you, what you must often have felt, how much the elegancy of diction adorns the best thoughts, and palliates the worst. In the House of Commons, it is almost every thing; and indeed, in every affembly, whether public or private. Words, which are the drefs of thoughts, deferve furely more care than clothes, which are only the dress of the person, and which, however, ought to have their share of attention. If you attend to your style, in any one language, it will give you an habit of attending to it in every other; and if once you speak either French or German very elegantly, you will afterwards speak much the better English for it. I repeat it to you again, for at least the thousandth time; exert your whole attention now in acquiring the ornamental parts of character. People know very little of the world, and talk nonfense, when they talk of plainness and folidity unadorned; they will do in nothing: mankind has been long out of a state of nature, and the golden age of native simplicity will never return. Whether for the better or the worfe, no matter, but we are refined; and plain manners, plain drefs, and plain diction, would as little do in life, as acorns, herbage, and the water of the neighbouring spring, would do at table. Some people are just come, who interrupt me in the middle of my fermon; to raugh corners: perhaps roe, you have fome rarricu-

lar collision, which is full more estectual.

Schamnar's History of the Palatinate was, I find, written originally in German, in winch language, I NATITELLA IN SURPOSE, I

LETTER CCLXVIII.

them I as and a ti hear ever took east aid and

London, November the 26th, 1753.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

INE doings at Manheim! If one may give credit to the weekly histories of Monsieur Roderigue, the finest writer among the moderns; not only des chasses brillantes et nombreuses, des opéras ou les acteurs se surpassent, les jours des Saints de L.L. AA. EB. sérénissimes, célébrés en grand gala; but, to crown the whole, Monsieur Zuchmantel is happily arrived, and Monsieur Wartensleben hourly expected. I hope that you are pars magna of all these delights; though, as Noll Bluff fays, in the Old Batchelor, that rascally Gazetteer takes no more notice of you, than if you were not in the land of the living. I should think, that he might at least have taken notice, that in those rejoicings you appeared with a rejoicing, and not a gloomy countenance; and you diftinguished yourself, in that numerous and shining company, by your air, dress, address, and attentions. If this was the case, as I will both hope and suppose that it was, I will, if you require it, have him written to, to do you justice in his next supplement. Seriously, I am very glad that you are whirled in that tourbillon of pleasures; they smooth, polish, and rub off rough corners: perhaps too, you have some particular collision, which is still more effectual.

Schannat's History of the Palatinate was, I find, written originally in German, in which language, I Vol. IV. D fuppose,

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fuppose, it is that you have read it; but, as I must humbly content myself with the French translation, Vaillant has sent for it for me, from Holland, so that I have not yet read it. While you are in the Palatinate, you do very well to read every thing relative to it; you will do still better if you make that reading the soundation of your inquiries into the more minute circumstances and anecdotes of that country, whenever you are in company with informed and knowing people.

The Ministers here, intimidated by the absurd and groundless clamours of the mob, have, very weakly in my mind, repealed, this fession, the bill which they had passed in the last, for rendering Jews capable of being naturalized, by subsequent acts of parliament. The clamourers triumph, and will doubtless make farther demands, which if not granted, this piece of complaifance will foon be forgotten. Nothing is truer in politics, than this reflection of the Cardinal de Retz. Que le peuple craint toujours quand on ne le eraint pas ; and confequently they grow unreasonable and infolent, when they find that they are feared. Wife and honest governors will never, if they can help it, give the people just cause to complain; but then, on the other hand, they will firmly withstand groundless clamour. Besides that this noise against the Jew bill proceeds from that narrow mob-spirit of intoleration in religious, and inhofpitality in civil matters a both which all wife gowernmente fliould opposes of worder basemmoss

The confusion in France increases daily, as no

doubt you are informed, where you are. There: is an answer of the Clergy's to the remonstrances of the Parhament, lately published; which was fent me by the last post from France, and which I would have fent you, enclosed in this, were it not too bulky. Very probably you may fee it at Manheims from the French Minister it is very well worth your reading, being most artfully and plausibly written, though founded upon false principles; the jus divinum of the Clergy, and consequently their fur premacy in all matters of faith and doctrine are afferted a both which Labfolutely deny. Were those two points allowed the Clergy of any country whatfoever, they must necessarily govern that country abfolutely, every thing being, directly or indirectly, relative to faith or doctrine; and whoever is supposed to have the power of faying and damning fouls, to all eternity, (which power the Clergy pretend to) will be much more confidered, and better obeyed, than any kivil power, that forms he pretentions beyend this world. Whereas, in truth, the Clergy in every country are, like all other subjects, dependant upon the supreme legislative power ; and are appointed by that power, under whatever restrictions and dimitations it pleases, to keep up decency and decorum in the church just as constables are to keep peace in the parish. This Fra. Paolo has clearly proved reven upon their own principles of the old and new Testament, in his book de Beneficiis, which I recommend to you to read with attention; it is The confusion in France incolusibAsilis, trade

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vidillog nen nem London, December the 25th, 1753.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

take this maxim for

VEsterday again I received two letters at once from you, the one of the 7th, the other of the 15th, from Mankeim.

You never had in your life so good a reason for not writing, either to me or to any body elfe, as your fore finger lately furnished you. I believe it was painful, and I am glad it is cured; but a fore finger, however painful, is a much leffer evil than lazinefs, of either body or mind, and attended by fewer ill consequences in I vidadara neal bas cob of baer

I am very glad to hear that you were diftinguished at the Court of Manheim, from the rest of your countrymen and fellow-travellers; it is a fign that you had better manners and address than they; for take it for granted, the best-bred people will always be the best received, wherever they go. Good manners are the fettled medium of focial, as specie is of commercial life; returns are equally expected for both; and people will no more advance their civility to a Bear, than their money to a Bankrupt, I really both hope, and believe, that the German Courts will do you a great deal of good; their ceremony and restraint being the proper correctives, and antidotes, for your negligence and inattention. I believe they would not greatly relish your weltering in your own laziness, and an easy chair; nor take

take it very kindly, if, when they spoke to you, or you to them, you looked another way; as much as to fay, kifs my b-h. As they give, fo they require attention; and, by the way, take this maxim for an undoubted truth, That no young man can possibly improve in any company, for which he has not respect enough to be under forme degree of reftraint.

I dare not trust to Meyssonier's report of his Rhenish, his Burgundy not having answered either his account or my expectations. I doubt, as a winemerchant, he is the perfidus caupo, whatever he may be as a banker. I shall therefore venture upon none of his wine; but delay making my provision of Old Hock, till I go abroad myfelf next fpring; as I told you in the utmost fecreey, in my last, that I intend to do; and then probably I may tafte fome that I like, and go upon fure ground. There is commonly very good, both at Aix-la-Chapelle and Liege, where I formerly got fome excellent, which I carried with me to Spa, where I drank no other take it for granted, the best beed people wilk a sniw

As my letters to you frequently milcarry, I will repeat in this, that part of my last, which related to your future motions. Whenever you shall be tired of Berlin, go to Drefden; where Sir Charles Williams will be, who will receive you with open arms. He dined with me to-day; and fets out for Drefden in about fix weeks. He spoke of you with great kindness and imparience to see you again. He will trust and employ you in business (and he is now in the whole secret of importance) till we fix our place our own lazing q and an easy chair; nor

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to meet in; which probably will be Span Whereever you are, inform yourfelf minutely of, and attend particularly to the affairs of France, they grow ferious, and in my opinion will grow more and more fo every day. The King is despised, and I do not wonder at it; but he has brought it about, to be hated at the fame time, which feldom happens to the fame man. His Ministers are known to be as difunited as incapable; he helitates between the Church and the Parliaments like the Afs in the fable, that starved between two hampers of havintoo much in love with his miftrefs to part with her and too much afraid for his foul, to enjoy her v jealous of the Parliaments, who would support his authority; and a devoted bigot to the Church, that would deftroy it. The people are poor, confequently difcontented those who have religion are divided in their notions of it; which is faving, that they hate one another The Clergy never do forgive y much less will they forgive the Parliament anthe Parliament never will forgive them on The Army mat without doubt take, in their lown minds at death, different parts in all these disputes, which upon orcasion would break out. Armies though always the supporters and tools of absolute power for the time being, are always the deftroyers of it itoow by frequently changing the hands in which they think proper to lodge it. ii This was the case of the Prætorian bands, who deposed and murdered the mansfers they had raifed to oppress mankindily. The Janissaries in Turkey, and the regiments of guards in Ruffia,

da

do the fame now. The French nation reasons freely. which they never did before, upon matters of religion and government, and begin to be foregiudicate; the officers do fo too; in front, all the fymptoms, which I have ever met with in history, previous to great changes and revolutions in Government, now exist, and daily increase in France. I am glad of it; the rest of Europe will be the quieter, and have time to recover. England, I am fure, wants reft; for it wants inen and money: the Republic of the United Provinces wants both, still more: the other Powers cannot well dance, when neither France, nor the maritime Powers, can, as they used to do, pay the piper. The first squabble in Europe, that I forefee, will be about the Crown of Poland, should the present King die; and therefore I wish his Majesty a long life and a merry Christmas. So much for foreign politics but, a propos of them, pray take care, while you are in those parts of Germany, to inform yourself correctly of all the details, discusfions, and agreements, which the feveral wars, confiscations, bans, and treaties, occasioned between the Bavarian and Palatine Electorates: they are interestcalleng would be when he was mick sedious backgais

In thall not, upon the occation of the approaching new year, repeat to you the withes which I continue to form for you; you know them all already; and you know that it is absolutely in your own power to fatisfy most of them. Among many other wishes, this is my most carnest one, That you would open the affilial it should be structed at the pew

40 LORD CHESTERFIELDS LETTERS

the Graces; who never reject those that supplicate them with servour: without them let me tell your that your friend Dame Fortune will stand you in little stead; may they all be your friends and a little

en airsibAeugh I am not sure that I should have had that personal valour which so successfully distinguished you in single combat with him, which made him bite the dust like Homer's heroes, and, to conclude my peckexisonely, for fine Two That Accid from which I propose eating into the fame time that

Lety of the London January the 15th desta

MY DEAR FRIEND,

HAVE this moment received your letter of
the 26th past, from Munich. Since you are
got so well out of the distress and dangers of your
journey from Manheim, I am glad that you were in
them,

that your them, was aring it sold on the street that your them we to that your them, was and in a sold in the sold of the sold on the sold of the sold on the sold on the sold of the sold

They were but little famples of the much greater diffres and dangers which you must expect to meet with in your great, and, I hope, long journey through life. In some parts of it, slowers are scattered with prosultion, the road is smooth, and the prospect pleasant; but in others (and I fear the greater mind ber) the road is sugged, beset with thoms and briats, and cut by torrents; Gather the slowers in your

repriors and the least thing that he does, like the

ways hour at the lame time guand against the brians, that are either mixed; with themsoord that, most tenis tainly succeed themseld modifies a suovent drive medit

A thank you for your wild boars who now he is: dead, I affure him fe biffera bien manger malgré qu'il en ait; though I am not fure that I should have had that personal valour which so successfully distinguished you in fingle combat with him, which made him bite the dust like Homer's heroes, and, to conclude my period fublimely, put him into that pickle, from which I propose eating him. At the same time that I appland your valour, I must do justice to your modesty; which candidly admits, that you were not overmatched, and that your adversary was of about your own age and fize. A Marcaffin, being under a year old, would have been below your indignation? Bête de compagnie, being under two years old, was still, in my opinion, below your glory; but I guess that your enemy was un Ragot, that is, from two to three years old; an age and fize which, between man and boar, answer pretty well to yours.

If accidents of bad roads or waters do not detain you at Munich, I do not fancy that pleasures, will a and I rather believe you will seek for, and find them at the Carnival at Berlin in which supposed them at the Carnival at Berlin in which supposed there. While you are at Berlin (I carnestly recommend it to you again and again) pray care to see hear, know, and mind, every thing there. The ablest tention; and the least thing that he does, like the smallest

fmallest sketches of the greatest painters, has its

Read with care the Gode Frederick, and inform yourself of the good effects of it, in those parts of his dominions where it has taken place, and where it has banished the former chicanes, quirks, and quibbles of the old law. Do not think any detail too minute, or trifling, for your inquiry and observation. I wish that you could find one hour's leifure every day, to read some good Italian author, and to converse in that language with our worthy friend Signor Angelo Cori: it would both refresh and improve your Italian, which, of the many languages you know, I take to be that in which you are the least perfect; but of which too, you already know enough to make yourself master of, with very little trouble, whenever you please.

Live, dwell, and grow, at the several Courts there; use them so much to your face, that they may not look upon you as a stranger. Observe, and take their tone, even to their affectations and follies; sor such there are, and perhaps should be, at all Courts. Stay, in all events, at Berlin, till I inform you of Sir Charles Williams's arrival at Dresden; where I suppose you would not care to be before sim, and where you may go as soon after him as ever you please. Your time there will neither be unprositably nor disagreeably spent; he will introduce you into all the best company, though he can introduce you to none so good as his own. He has of late applied himself very seriously to foreign affairs, especially

especially those of Saxony and Poland, he knows them perfectly well, and will tell you what he knows, He always expresses, and I have good reason to believe very sincerely, great kindness and affection for you.

The works of the late Lord Bolingbroke are just published, and have plunged me into philosophical studies: which hitherto I have not been much used to, or delighted with; convinced of the futility of those researches; but I have read his Philosophical Effay upon the extent of human knowledge, which, by the way, makes two large quarto's and an half. He there shows very clearly, and with most splendid eloquence, what the human mind can, and cannot do; that our understandings are wifely calculated for our place in this planet, and for the link which we form in the universal chain of things; but that they are by no means capable of that degree of knowledge, which our curiolity makes us fearch after, and which our vanity makes us often believe we arrive at. I hall not recommend to you the reading of that work. But when you return hither. I shall recommend to your frequent and diligent perufal, all his tracts, that are relative to our history and constitution; upon which he throws lights, and scatters graces, which no other writer has ever done di ni so pi, sur son bluow a

Reading, which was always a pleasure to me, in the time even of my greatest dissipation, is now become my only refuge; and, I fear, I indulge it too much, at the expense of my eyes. But what can I

do? I must do something; I cannot bear absolute idleness: my ears grow every day more useless to me, my eyes consequently more necessary; I will not heard them like a miser, but will rather risk the loss, than not enjoy the use of them.

Pray let me know all the particulars, not only of your reception at Munich, but also at Berlin; at the latter, I believe, it will be a good one; for his Prussian Majesty knows, that I have long been an admirer and respecter of his great and various talents.

Adieu.

ation and quaintizels. I hope you have endea-IXXIDD ur The The That Her If the

London, February the 1st, 1754.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

time.

If the is of an iraf-

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are stall of what the Italians call

Received, yesterday, yours of the 12th from Munich; in consequence of which, I direct this to you there, though I directed my three last to Berlin, where I suppose you will find them at your arrival. Since you are not only domesticated, but niché at Munich, you are much in the right to stay there. It is not by seeing places, that one knows them, but by familiar and daily conversations with the people of fashion. I would not care to be in the place of that prodigy of beauty, whom you are to drive dans to course de Traineaux; and I am apt to think you are much more likely to break her bones, than she is, though ever so critel, to break your heart. Nay,

do solute of gallors and surface of the rules of gallantry, you are obliged to overturn her on purpole: in the first place, for the chance of seeing her backfide; in the next, for the fake of the contrition and concern which it would give you an apportunity of showing, and lastly, upon account of all the gentillesses et epigrammes, which it would naturally fuggeft. Voiture has made feveral stanzas, upon an accident of that kind, which happened to a lady of his acquaintance. There is a great deal of wit in them, rather too much; for, according to the tafte of those times, they are full of what the Italians call concetti spiritosissimi; the Spaniards, agudeze; and we, affectation and quaintness. I hope you have endeavoured to fuit your Trainean to the character of the fair one whom it is to contain. If the is of an irafcible, imperuous disposition (as fine women can formetimes be) you will doubtless place her in the body of a lion, a tyger, a dragon, or some tremendods beaft of prey and fury; if the is a sublime and stately beauty, which I think more probable (for unquestionably she is hogh gebobrne) you will, I suppose, provide a magnificent swan or proud peacock for her reception; but if the is all tenderness, and softness, you have, to be fure, taken care, amgrous doves and wanton sparrows should seem to flutter round her. Proper mottos, I take it for granted, that you have eventually prepared; but if not, you may find a great many ready-made ones, in Les entretiens d'Ariste et d'Eugene, sur les devises, written by Pere Bouhours, and worth your reading at any time. time to I will not say to you, upon this occasion, like the Father in Ovida and movement of the realist of the same of the sam

Parce puer simulis et fortius utere loris.

On the contrary, drive on brifkly; it is not the charjot of the fun that you drive, but you carry the fun in your chariot; consequently, the faster it goes, the less it will be likely either to scorch or consume. This is Spanish enough, I am sure.

If this finds you still at Munich, pray make many compliments from me to Mr. Burrish, to whom I am very much obliged for all his kindness to your it is true, that while I had power, I endeavoured to serve him; but it is as true too, that I served many others more, who have neither returned nor remembered those services.

Carniolan complaint, the arthritis vaga; luckily, it did not fall upon my breaft, but feized on my right arm; there it fixed its feat of empire; but, as in all tyrannical governments, the remotest parts felt their share of its severity. Last post I was not able to hold a pen long enough to write to you, and therefore defired Mr. Grevenkop to do it for me; but that letter was directed to Berlin. My pain is now much abated, though I have still some fine remains of it in my shoulder, where I fear it will teaze me a great while I must be careful to take Horace's advice; and consider well, Quid valeant humeri, quid ferre recufent.

· CXIVE

Lady Chefferfield bids me make you her compliments, and affure you, that the music will be much more welcome to her with you, than without you.

In some of my last letters, which were directed to, and will I suppose wait for you at Berlin, I complimented you, and with justice, upon your great improvement of late in the epiftolary way, both with regard to the ftyle and the turn of your letters; your four or five last to me have been very good ones, and one that you wrote to Mr. Harte, upon the New Year, was so pretty a one, and he was so much and fo justly pleased with ir, that he fent it me from Windfor, the inftant he had read it. This talent (and a most necessary one it is in the course of life) is to be acquired by refolving, and taking pains to acquire it; and, indeed, fo is every talent except poetry, which is undoubtedly a gift, wThink therefore, night and day, of the turn, the purity, the correctness, the perspicuity, and the elegancy of whatever you speak or write: take my word for it your labour will not be in vain, but greatly rewarded by the harvest of praise and success which it will bring you. Delicacy of turn, and elegancy of flyle, are ornaments as necessary to common sense, asilattentions, address, and fashionable manners, are to common civility; both may subsist without them, but then, without being of the least use to the owner. The figure of a man is exactly the fame, in dirty rags, or in the finest and best-chosen clothes; but in which of the two he is the most likely to please,

48 LORD CHESTERFIELD'S LETTERS

and to be received in good company, I leave to you to determine.

Both my arm and my paper hint to me, to bid you good night.

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London, February the 12th, 1754-

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Take my aim, and let off this letter at you, at Berlin; I should be forry it missed you, because I believe you will read it with as much pleasure as I write it. It is to inform you, that, after some difficulties and dangers, your feat in the new Parliament is at last absolutely secured, and that without opposition, or the least necessity of your personal trouble or appearance. This fuccels, I must farther inform you, is in a great degree owing to Mr. Eliot's friendship to us both; for he brings you in with himself, at his surest borough. As it was impossible to act with more zeal and friendship, than Mr. Eliot has acted in this whole affair, I defire that you will, by the very next post, write him a letter of thanks; warm and young thanks, not old and cold ones. You may enclose it in yours to me, and I will fend it to him, for he is now in Corn.

Thus, sure of being a Senator, I dare say you do not propose to be one of the pedarii senatores et pedibus

pedibus ire in fententiam; for, as the House of Commons is the theatre where you must make your fortune and figure in the world, you must resolve to be an actor, and not a persona muta, which is just equivalent to a candle-fnuffer upon other theatres. Whoever does not thine there is obscure, infignificant, and contemptible; and you cannot conceive how easy it is, for a man of half your fense and knowledge, to shine there if he pleases. The receipt to make a speaker, and an applauded one too, is short and easy.—Take of common sense quantum sufficit, add a little application to the rules and orders of the House, throw obvious thoughts in a new light, and make up the whole with a large quantity of purity, correctness, and elegancy of style. Take it for granted, that by far the greatest part of mankind do neither analyse nor search to the bottom; they are incapable of penetrating deeper than the furface. All have senses to be gratified, very few have reafon to be applied to, Graceful utterance and action please their eyes, elegant diction tickles their ears a but strong reason would be thrown away upon them. I am not only perfuaded by theory, but convinced by my experience, that (supposing a certain degree of common fense) what is called a good fpeaker, is as much a mechanic as a good shoemaker; and that the two trades are equally to be learned by the same degree of application. Therefore, for God's fake, let this trade be the principal object of your thoughts; never lose fight of it. Attend minutely to your ftyle, whatever language, you VOL. IV. fpeak

dady

speak or write in; seek for the best words, and think of the best turns. Whenever you doubt of the propriety of elegancy of any word, fearch the dictionary, or fome good author for it; or inquire of fomebody, who is mafter of that language; and in a little time, propriety and elegancy of diction will become so habitual to you, that they will cost you no more trouble. As I have laid this down to be mechanical, and attainable by whoever will take the necessary pains, there will be no great vanity in my faying, that I saw the importance of the object so early, and attended to it so young, that it would now cost me more trouble to fpeak or write ungrammatically, vulgarly, and inelegantly, than ever it did to avoid doing fo. The late Lord Bolingbroke, without the least trouble. talked all day long, full as elegantly as he wrote? Why? Not by a peculiar gift from heaven; but, as he has often told me himself, by an early and constant attention to his style. The present Solicitor-general, Murray*, has less law than many lawyers, but has more practice than any; merely upon account of his eloquence, of which he has a never-failing fream. I remember, fo long ago as when I was at Cambridge, whenever I read pieces of eloquence (and indeed they were my chief study) whether ancient or modern, I used to write down the shining passages, and then translate them, as well and as elegantly as ever I could; if Latin or French, into English; if English, into French. This, which I practifed for some years, not

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^{*} Created Lord Mansfield in the year 1756

only improved and formed my style, but imprinted in my mind and memory the best thoughts of the best authors. The trouble was little, but the advantage I have experienced was great. While you are abroad, you can neither have time nor opportunity to read pieces of English, or Parliamentary eloquence, as I hope you will carefully do when you return; but, in the mean time, whenever pieces of French eloquence come in your way, fuch as the speeches of persons received into the Academy, oraisons funébres, representations of the several Parliaments to the King, &c. read them in that view, in that spirit; observe the harmony, the turn and elegancy of the style; examine in what you think it might have been better; and confider in what, had you written it yourself, you might have done worse. Compare the different manners of expressing the same thoughts, in different authors; and observe how differently the fame things appear in different dreffes. Vulgar, coarfe, and ill-chosen words, will deform and degrade the best thoughts, as much as rags and dire will the best figure. In short, you now know your object; purfue it fleadily, and have no digreffions that are not relative to, and connected with the main action. Your success in Parliament will effectually remove all other objections; either a foreign or a domestic destination will no longer be refused you, if you make your way to it through Westminfter of small and posterior and state of the second state of the second seco

I think I may now fay, that I am quite recovered of my late illness, strength and spirits excepted, which

Berlin, which I fancy will be a most gracious one.

Adieu.

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remember cooringed; that with the fame application. WXXXIOO to in the Tell Two I mail corramity count, and perfects the predictor.

grant wow to terrent London, February the 15th, 1754.

MY DEAR FRIEND, O THE THE MENT A TON BEE

TCAN now with great truth apply your own motto to you, Nullum numen abest, si sit prudentia. You are fure of being, as early as your age will permit, a Member of that House; which is the only road to figure and fortune in this country. Those indeed who are bred up to, and distinguish themselves in particular professions, as the army, the navy, and the law, may by their own merit raise themselves to a certain degree; but you may observe too, that they never get to the top, without the affiftance of Parliamentary talents and influence. The means of distinguishing yourself in Parliament are, as I told you in my last, much more easily attained than I believe you imagine. Glose attendance to the business of the House will soon give you the Parliamentary routine; and strict attention to your style will foon make you, not only a speaker, but a good one. The vulgar look upon a man, who is reckoned a fine fpeaker, CONT.

fpeaker, as a phænomenon, a supernatural being, and endowed with some peculiar gift of Heaven: they stare at him, if he walks in the Park, and cry, that is be. You will, I am fure, view him in a juster light, and nulla formidine. You will confider him only as a man of good fense, who adorns common ' thoughts with the graces of elocution, and the elegancy of style. The miracle will then cease; and you will be convinced, that with the fame application, and attention to the same objects, you may most certainly equal, and perhaps furpass this prodigy. Sir W----, with not a quarter of your parts, and not a thousandth part of your knowledge, has, by a glibness of tongue singly, raised himself successively to the best employments of the kingdom: he has been Lord of the Admiralty, Lord of the Treasury, Secretary at War, and is now Vice-Treasurer of Ireland; and all this, with a most sullied, not to fay blafted character. Represent the thing to yourfelf, as it really is, eafily attainable, and you will find it fo. Have but ambition enough passionately to defire the object, and spirit enough to use the means, and I will be answerable for your success. When I was younger than you are, I refolved within myfelf, that I would in all events be a speaker in Parliament, and a good one too, if I could. I consequently never lost fight of that object, and never neglected any of the means that I thought led to it. Plucceeded to a certain degree; and, I affure you, with great eafe, and without superior talents. Young people are very apt to over-rate both men and things, from

from not being enough acquainted with them. In proportion as you come to know them better, you will value them less. You will find that reason, which always ought to direct mankind, feldom does: but that paffions and weaknesses commonly ususp its feat, and rule in its flead. You will find, that the ablest have their weak sides too, and are only comparatively able, with regard to the still weaker herd: having fewer weaknesses themselves, they are able to avail themselves of the innumerable ones of the generality of mankind: being more mafters of themfelves, they become more eafily mafters of others. They address themselves to their weaknesses, their fenses, their passions; never to their reason; and consequently seldom fail of success. But then analyfe those great, those governing, and, as the vulgar imagine, those perfect Characters; and you will find the great Brutus a thief in Macedonia, the great Cardinal de Richelieu a jealous poetaster, and the great Duke of Marlborough a mifer. Till you come to know mankind by your own experience, I know no thing, nor no man, that can in the mean time bring you fo well acquainted with them as le Duc de la Rochefoucault: his little book of Maxims, which I would advise you to look into, for some moments at least, every day of your life, is, I fear, too like, and too exact a picture of human nature : 11 own, it feems to degrade it; but yet my experience does not convince me, that it degrades it unjustly.

Now to bring all this home to my first point.
All these considerations should not only invite you

to attempt to make a figure in Parliament, but encourage you to hope that you shall succeed. To govern mankind, one must not over-rate them; and to please an audience, as a speaker, one must not over-value it. When I first came into the House of Commons, I respected that assembly as a venerable one; and felt a certain awe upon me: but, upon better acquaintance, that awe foon vanished; and I discovered, that, of the five hundred and fixty, not above thirty could understand reason, and that all the rest were peuple: that those thirty only required plain common sense, dressed up in good language; and that all the others only required flowing and harmonious periods, whether they conveyed any meaning or not; having ears to hear, but not fense enough to judge. These considerations made me speak with little concern the first time, with less the second, and with none at all the third. I gave myself no farther trouble about any thing, except my elocution and my ftyle; prefuming, without much vanity, that I had common sense sufficient not to talk nonsense. Fix these three truths strongly in your mind: First, That it is absolutely necessary for you to speak in Parliament; fecondly, That it only requires a little human attention, and no fupernatural gifts; and thirdly, That you have all the reason in the world to think that you shall speak well. When we meet, this shall be the principal subject of our conversations; and, if you will follow my advice, I will answer for your success.

Now from great things to little ones; the transition

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is to me easy, because nothing seems little to me, that. can be of any use to you. I hope you take great care of your mouth and teeth, and that you clean them well every morning with a fpunge and tepid water, with a few drops of arquebulade water dropped into it; besides washing your mouth carefully after every meal. I do infift upon your never using those flicks, or any hard fubstance whatsoever, which always rub away the gums, and destroy the varnish of the teeth. I speak this from woeful experience; for my negligence of my teeth, when I was younger than you are, made them bad; and afterwards, my defire to have them look better, made me use sticks, irons, &c. which totally destroyed them; so that I have not now above fix or feven left. I loft one this morning, which suggested this advice to you.

I have received the tremendous wild boar, which your still more tremendous arm slew in the immense desarts of the Palatinate; but have not yet tasted of it, as it is hitherto above my low regimen. The late King of Prussia, whenever he killed any number of wild boars, used to oblige the Jews to buy them, at an high price, though they could eat none of them; so they defrayed the expence of his hunting. His so has juster rules of government, as the Code Freder wick plainly shows.

I hope that, by this time, you are as well ancre at Berlin as you were at Murich; but if not, you are fure of being fo at Drefden. Adieu.

drinking the Aix la Chapelle waters for a week, and from thence being at Sparabout the 15th of May, AFT TAL where

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throughed exert merning with a foundmon bourepid. MY DEAR FRIEND, London, February 26th, 1754-

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Have received your letters of the 4th from Munich and of the 17th from Ratifbon; but I have not received that of the 31st January, to which you refer in the former. It is to this negligence and uncertainty of the post, that you owe your accidents between Munich and Ratifbon; for, had you received my letters regularly, you would have received one from me, before you left Munich, in which I advised you to stay, fince you were so well there. But at all events, you were in the wrong to let out from Munich in fuch weather and fuch roads; fince you could never imagine that I had fet my heart fo much upon your going to Berlin, as to venture your being buried in the fnow for it. Upon the whole, confidering all, you are very well off. You do quite right, in my mind, to return to Munich, or at least to keep within the circle of Munich, Ratifbon, and Manheim, till the weather and the roads are good: stay at each or any of those places as long as ever you please; for I am extremely indifferent about your going to Berlin.

As to our meeting, I will tell you my plan, and you may form your own accordingly. I propole fetting out from hence the last week in April, then drinking the Aix-la-Chapelle waters for a week, and from thence being at Spa about the 15th of May, H. Masan

where I shall stay two months at most, and then returning frait to England. As I both hope and believe that there will be no mortal at Spa during my refidence there, the fashionable feason not beginning till the middle of July, I would by no means have you come there at first, to be locked up with me and some few Capucins, for two months, in that miferable hole; but I would advise you to stay where you like best, till about the first week in July, and then to come and pick me up at Spa, or meet me upon the road at Liege or Bruffels. As for the intermediate time, should you be weary of Manheim and Munich, you may, if you please, go to Dresden to Sir Charles Williams, who will be there before that time; or you may come for a month or fix weeks to the Hague; or, in short, go on stay wherever you like best. So much for your motions.

As you have fent for all the letters directed to you at Berlin, you will receive from thence volumes of mine, among which you will easily perceive that some were calculated for a supposed perusal previous to your opening them. I will not repeat any thing contained in them, excepting that I desire you will send me a warm and cordial letter of thanks for Mr. Eliot; who has, in the most friendly manner imaginable, fixed you at his own borough of Liskeard, where you will be elected, jointly with him, without the least opposition or difficulty. I will sorward that letter to him into Cornwall, where he now is.

Now that you are to be foon a man of business. I heartily wish you would immediately begin to be a man

a man of method; nothing contributing more to facilitate and dispatch business, than method and order. Have order and method in your accounts, in your reading, in the allotment of your time; in short, in every thing. You cannot conceive how much time you will fave by it, nor how much betfer every thing you do will be done. The Duke of Marlborough did by no means spend, but he slatterned himself into that immense debt, which is not yet near paid off. The hurry and confusion of the Duke of Newcastle do not proceed from his business, but from his want of method in it. Sir Robert Walpole, who had ten times the business to do, was never feen in a hurry, because he always did it with method. The head of a man who has business, and no method nor order, is properly that rudis indirestaque moles quam dixere chaos. As you must be confeious that you are extremely negligent and flatternly, I hope you will resolve not to be so for the future. Prevail with yourself, only to observe good method and order for one fortnight; and I will venture to affure you, that you will never neglect them afterwards, you will find fuch conveniency and advantage arising from them. Method is the great advantage that lawyers have over other people, in speaking in Parliament; for, as they must necessarily observe it in their pleadings in the Courts of Justice, it becomes habitual to them every where elfe. Without making you a compliment, I can tell you with pleasure, that order, method, and more activity of mind, are all that you want, to make, some day or other,

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other, a confiderable figure in business. You have more useful knowledge, more discernment of characters, and much more discretion, than is common at your age; much more, I am sure, than I had at that age. Experience you cannot yet have, and therefore trust in the mean time to mine. I am an old traveller; am well acquainted with all the bye as well as the great roads; I cannot misguide you from ignorance, and you are very sure I shall not from design.

I can affure you, that you will have no opportunity of subscribing yourself, my Excellency's, &c. Retirement and quiet were my choice fome years ago, while I had all my fenfes, and health and spirits enough to carry on bufiness; but now I have lost my hearing, and find my constitution declining daily, they are become my necessary and only refuge. I know myfelf, (no common piece of knowledge, let me tell you) I know what I can, what I cannot, and confequently what I ought to do. I ought not, and therefore will not, return to bulinels, when I am much less fit for it than I was when I quitted it. Still less will I go to Ireland, where, from my deafness and infirmities, I must necessarily make a different figure from that which I once made there. " My pride would be too much mortified by that difference. The two important fenses of feeing and hearing should not only be good, but quick in business; and the buliness of a Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (if he will do it himself) requires both those senses in the highest perfection. It was the Duke of Dorset's not doing the business himself, but giving

it up to favourites, that has occasioned all this confusion in Ireland; and it was my doing the whole myself, without either Favourite, Minister, or Mistress, that made my administration so smooth and quiet. I remember, when I named the late Mr. Liddel for my Secretary, every body was much furprised at it; and some of my friends represented to me, that he was no man of buliness, but only a very genteel, pretty young fellow, I affured them, and with truth, that that was the very reason why I chose him: for that I was resolved to do all the business myself, and without even the suspicion of having a Minister; which the Lord Lieutenant's Secretary. if he is a Man of business, is always supposed, and commonly with reason, to be. Moreover, I look upon myself now to be emeritus in business, in which I have been near forty years together, I give it up to you: apply yourfelf to it, as I have done, for forty years, and then I confent to your leaving it for a philosophical retirement, among your friends and your books. Statesmen and beauties are very rarely sensible of the gradations of their decay; and, too fanguinely hoping to shine on in their meridian, often fet with contempt and ridicule. I retired in time. uti conviva fatur; or, as Pope fays, still better, E'er tittering youth shall shove you from the stage. My only remaining ambition is to be the Counfellor and Minister of your rising ambition. Let me see my own youth revived in you; let me be your Mentor, and, with your parts and knowledge, I promise you, you flacked's not doing the buliness himfelf, but giving

shall go far. You must bring, on your part, activity and attention, and I will point out to you the proper objects for them. I own, I fear but one thing for you, and that is what one has generally the least reafon to fear from one of your age; I mean your laziness; which, if you indulge, will make you stagnate in a contemptible obscurity all your life. It will hinder you from doing any thing that will deferve to be written, or from writing any thing that may deferve to be read; and yet one or other of these two objects should be at least aimed at by every rational being. I look upon indolence as a fort of faicide; for the Man is effectually destroyed, though the appetites of the Brute may furvive. Bufiness by no means forbids pleafures; on the contrary, they reciprocally feafon each other; and I will venture to affirm, that no man enjoys either in perfection, that does not join both. They whet the defire for each other. Use yourself therefore, in time, to be alert and diligent in your little concerns : never prograftinate, never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day; and never do two things at a time: pursue your object, be it what it will, fleadily and indefatigably; and let any difficulties (if furmountable) rather animate than flacken your endeavours. Perseverance has furprising effects.

- I wish you would use yourself to translate, every day; only three or four lines, from any book, in any language, into the correctest and most elegant English that you can think of; you cannot imagine how

cateed of by different people for it, according as athard

it will insensibly form your style, and give you an habitual elegancy: it would not take you up a quarter of an hour in a day. This letter is so long, that it will hardly leave you that quarter of an hour, the day you receive it. So good-night.

LETTER CCLXXV.

in one work in a weekly the entire more

London, March the 8th, 1754,

MY DEAR FRIEND,

A Great and unexpected event has lately happened in our ministerial world-Mr. Pelham died last Monday, of a fever and mortification: occasioned by a general corruption of his whole mass of blood, which had broke out into fores in his back. I regret him as an old acquaintance, a pretty near relation, and a private man, with whom I have lived many years in a focial and friendly way. He meaned well to the public; and was incorrupt in a post where corruption is commonly contagious. If he was no thining, enterprizing Minister, he was a fafe one, which I like better. Very shining Miniflers, like the Sun, are apt to fcorch when they fhine the brightest: in our constitution, I prefer the milder light of a less glaring Minister. His fuccessor is not yet, at least publicly, designatus. You will eafily fuppole that many are very willing, and very few able to fill that post. Various persons are talked of, by different people, for it, according as their NOU. interest

interest prompts them to wish, or their ignorance to conjecture, Mr. Fox is the most talked of, he is strongly supported by the Duke of Cumberland. Mr. Legge, the Solicitor General, and Dr. Lee, are likewife all spoken of, upon the foot of the Duke of Newcastle's, and the Chancellor's interest. Should it be any one of the three last, I think no great alterations will ensue; but should Mr. Fox prevail, it would, in my opinion, foon produce changes, by no means favourable to the Duke of Newcastle. the mean time, the wild conjectures of volunteer politicians, and the ridiculous importance which, upon these occasions, blockheads always endeavour to give themselves, by grave looks, fignificant shrugs, and infignificant whifpers, are very entertaining to a bystander, as, thank God, I now am. One knows something, but is not yet at liberty to tell it; another has heard fomething from a very good hand; a third congratulates himself upon a certain degree of intimacy, which he has long had with every one of the candidates, though perhaps he has never spoken twice to any one of them. In short, in these fort of intervals, vanity, interest, and absurdity, always display themselves in the most ridiculous light. One who has been fo long behind the scenes as I have, is much more diverted with the entertainment, than those can be who only see it from the pit and boxes. I know the whole machinery of the interior, and can laugh the better at the filly wonder and wild conjectures of the uninformed spectators. This accident, I think, cannot in the least affect your election,

tion, which is finally settled with your friend Mr. Eliot. For, let who will prevail, I presume, he will consider me enough, not to overturn an arrangement of that sort, in which he cannot possibly be personally interested. So pray go on with your parliamentary preparations. Have that object always in your view, and pursue it with attention.

I take it for granted, that your late residence in Germany has made you as perfect and correct in German, as you were before in French, at least it is worth your while to be fo; because it is worth every man's while to be perfectly mafter of whatever language he may ever have occasion to speak. A man is not himself, in a language which he does not thoroughly posses; his thoughts are degraded, when inelegantly or imperfectly expressed; he is cramped and confined, and confequently can never appear to advantage. Examine and analyse those thoughts that strike you the most, either in conversation or in books; and you will find, that they owe at least half their merit to the turn and expression of them. There is nothing truer than that old faying, Nibil distum quod non prius distum. It is only the manner of faying or writing it, that makes it appear new. Convince yourself, that Manner is almost every thing, in every thing, and study it accordingly.

I am this moment informed, and I believe truly, that Mr. Fox*is to succeed Mr. Pelham, as first Com-

Henry Fox, created Lord Holland, Baron of Foxley, in the year 1763.

missioner of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer; and your friend Mr. Yorke, of the Hague, to fucceed Mr. Fox, as Secretary at War. I am not forry for this promotion of Mr. Fox, as I have always been upon civil terms with him, and found him ready to do me any little fervices. He is frank and gentleman-like in his manner; and, to a certain degree, I really believe will be your friend upon my account; if you can afterwards make him yours, upon your own, tant mieux. I have nothing more to fay now, but Adieu.

R CCLXXVI. LETTE

London, March the 15th, 1754.

MY DEAR FRIEND, Lournest tot troube

TE are here in the midst of a second winter; the cold is more severe, and the snow deeper, than they were in the first. I prefume your weather in Germany is not much more gentle, and therefore, I hope that you are quietly and warmly fixed at some good town; and will not rifk a fecond burial in the fnow, after your late fortunate refurrection out of it. Your letters, I suppose, have not been able to make their way through the ice; for I have received none from you fince that of the 12th of February, from Ratisbon. I am the more uneasy at this state of ignorance, because I fear that you may have found fome subsequent inconveniencies from your overturn, which you might not be aware of at first.

The curtain of the political theatre was partly drawn up the day before yesterday, and exhibited a fcene which the public in general did not expect: the Duke of Newcastle was declared first Lord Commissioner of the Treasury, Mr. Fox Secretary of State in his room, and Mr. Henry Legge Chancellor of the Exchequer. The employments of Treasurer of the Navy, and Secretary at War, supposed to be vacant by the promotion of Mr. Fox and Mr. Legge, were to be kept in petto till the dissolution of this Parliament, which will probably be next week, to avoid the expence and trouble of unnecessary re-elections; but it was generally supposed that Colonel Yorke, of the Hague, was to fucceed Mr. Fox, and George Grenville, Mr. Legge. This scheme, had it taken place, you are, I believe, aware, was more a temporary expedient, for fecuring the elections of the new Parliament, and forming it, at its first meeting, to the interests and the inclinations of the Duke of Newcastle and the Chancellor, than a plan of Administration either intended or wished to be permanent. This scheme was disturbed yesterday: Mr. Fox, who had fullenly accepted the feals the day before, more fullenly refused them yesterday. His object was to be first Commissioner of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer, and confequently to have a share in the election of the new Parliament, and a much greater in the management of it when chosen. This necessary consequence of his view defeated it; and the Duke of Newcastle, and the Chancellor, chose to kick him up-stairs into the F 2 Secretary-

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Secretaryship of State, rather than trust him with either the election or the management of the new Parliament. In this, confidering their respective fituations, they certainly acted wifely; but whether Mr. Fox has done fo, or not, in refufing the feals, is a point which I cannot determine. If he is, as I prefume he is, animated with revenge, and I believe would not be over ferupulous in the means of gratifying it, I should have thought he could have done it better, as a Secretary of State, with constant admission into the Closet, than as a private man at the head of an opposition. But I see all these things at too great a distance to be able to judge foundly of them. The true springs and motives of political measures are confined within a very narrow circle, and known to very few; the good reasons alledged are feldom the true ones. The Public commonly judges, or rather gueffes, wrong, and I am now one of that Public. I therefore recommend to you a prudent pyrrhonism in all matters of state, until you become one of the wheels of them yourself, and consequently acquainted with the general motion, at least, of the others; for as to all the minute and fecret springs, that contribute more or less to the whole machine, no man living ever knows them all, not even he who has the principal direction of it. As in the human body, there are innumerable little vessels and glands, that have a good deal to do, and yet escape the knowledge of the most skilful anatomist; he will know more indeed, than those who only see the exterior of our bodies; but he will

never

never know all. This buftle, and these changes at Court, far from having disturbed the quiet and security of your election, have, if possible, rather confirmed them; for the Duke of Newcastle (I must do him justice) has, in the kindest manner imaginable to you, wrote a letter to Mr. Eliot, to recommend to him the utmost care of your election.

Though the plan of administration is thus unfettled, mine, for my travels this fummer, is finally fettled; and I now communicate it to you, that you may form your own upon it. I propose being at Spa on the 10th or 12th of May, and staying there till the roth of July. As there will be no mortal there during my stay, it will be both unpleasant and unprofitable to you to be shut up tête-à-tête with me the whole time: I should therefore think it best for you not to come to me there till the last week in June. In the mean time, I fuppose that by the middle of April you will think you have had enough of Manheim, Munich, or Ratisbon, and that diffrict. Where would you chuse to go then? for I leave you absolutely your choice. Would you go to Drefden for a month or fix weeks? That is a good deal out of your way; and I am not fure that Sir Charles will be there by that time. Or would you rather take Bonn in your way, and pass the time till we meet at the Hague? From Manheim you may have a great many good letters of recommendation to the Court of Bonn; which Court, and its Elector, in one light or another, are worth your feeing. From thence your journey to the Hague F 3 will

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will be but a short one; and you would arrive there at that season of the year when the Hague is, in my mind, the most agreeable, smiling scene in Europe; and from the Hague you would have but three very eafy days journies to me at Spa. Do as you like; for, as I told you before, Ella è affolutamente padrone. But left you should answer, that you defire to be determined by me, I will eventually tell you my opinion. I am rather inclined to the latter plan; I mean, that of your coming to Bonn, staying there according as you like it, and then paffing the remainder of your time, that is May and June, at the Hague. Our connection and transactions with the Republic of the United Provinces are fuch, that you cannot be too well acquainted with that conflitution, and with those people. You have established good acquaintances there, and you have been fêtoïé round by the foreign Ministers: fo that you will be there en païs connu. Moreover, you have not feen the Stadthouder, the Gouvernante, nor the Court there, which a bon compte should be seen. Upon the whole then, you cannot, in my opinion, pass the months of May and June more agreeably, or more usefully, than at the Hague. However, if you have any other plan, that you like better, purfue it: only let me know what you intend to do, and I shall most chearfully agree to it.

The Parliament will be diffolyed in about ten days, and the writs for the election of the new one issued out immediately afterwards; so that, by the end of next month, you may depend upon being Membre

Membre de la chambre basse; a title that sounds high in foreign countries, and perhaps higher than it deferves. I hope you will add a better title to it in your own, I mean that of a good speaker in Parliament: you have, I am fure, all the materials necesfary for it, if you will but put them together and adorn them, I spoke in Parliament the first month I was in it, and a month before I was of age; and from the day I was elected, till the day that I spoke, I am fure I thought nor dreamed of nothing but fpeaking. The first time, to say the truth, I spoke very indifferently as to the matter; but it passed tolerably, in favour of the spirit with which I uttered it, and the words in which I dreffed it. I improved by degrees, till at last it did tolerably well. The House, it must be owned, is always extremely indulgent to the two or three first attempts of a young speaker; and if they find any degree of common fense in what he says, they make great allowances for his inexperience, and for the concern which they suppose him to be under. I experienced that indulgence; for had I not been a young Member, I should certainly have been, as I own I deferved, reprimanded by the House for some strong and indiscreet things that I said. Adieu! it is indeed high time. en'il page ben reasony topis

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LETTER CCLXXVII,

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London, March the 26th, 1754.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

VESTERDAY I received your letter of the 15th from Manheim, where I find you have been received in the usual gracious manner; which I hope you return in a graceful one. As this is a feafon of great devotion and folemnity in all Catholic countries, pray inform yourself of, and constantly attend. to all their filly and pompous Church ceremonies: one ought to know them. I am very glad that you wrote the letter to Lord ----, which, in every different case that can possibly be supposed, was, I am fure, both a decent and a prudent step. You will find it very difficult, whenever we meet, to convince me that you could have any good reasons for not doing it; for I will, for argument's fake, suppose, what I cannot in reality believe, that he has both faid and done the worst he could, of and by you; what then? How will you help yourself? Are you in a fituation to hurt him? Certainly not; but he certainly is in a fituation to hurt you. Would you show a fullen, pouting, impotent refentment? I hope not: leave that filly, unavailing fort of refentment to women, and men like them, who are always guided by humour, never by reason and prudence. That pettish, pouting conduct is a great deal too young, and implies too little knowledge of the world, for one who has feen fo much of

it as you have. Let this be one invariable rule of your conduct-Never to flow the least symptom of refentment, which you cannot, to a certain degree, gratify; but always to fmile, where you cannot strike. There would be no living in Courts, nor indeed in the world, if one could not conceal, and even dissemble, the just causes of resentment, which one meets with every day in active and bufy life. Whoever cannot master his humour enough, pour faire bonne mine à mauvais jeu, should leave the world. and retire to some hermitage, in an unfrequented defart. By showing an unavailing and fullen resentment, you authorize the resentment of those who can hurt you, and whom you cannot hurt; and give them that very pretence, which perhaps they wished for, of breaking with, and injuring you; whereas the contrary behaviour would lay them under the restraints of decency at least; and either shackle or expose their malice. Besides, captiousness, sullennefs, and pouting, are most exceedingly illiberal and vulgar. Un bonnête bomme ne les connoit point.

I am extremely glad to hear that you are soon to have Voltaire at Manheim: immediately upon his arrival, pray make him a thousand compliments from me. I admire him most exceedingly; and whether as an Epic, Dramatic, or Lyric Poet, or Prose-writer, I think I justly apply to him the Nil molitur inepté. I long to read his own correct edition of Les Annales de l'Empire, of which the Abrégé Chronologique de l'Histoire Universelle, which I have read, is, I suppose, a stolen and impersect part; however, impersect as it is,

it has explained to me that chaos of history of feven hundred years, more clearly, than any other book had done before. You judge very rightly, that I love le style leger et sleuri. I do, and so does every body who has any parts and tafte. It should, I confefs, be more or less fleuri, according to the subject; but at the same time I affert, that there is no subject that may not properly, and which ought not to be adorned, by a certain elegancy and beauty of style. What can be more adorned than Cicero's Philofophical Works? What more than Plato's? It is their eloquence only, that has preferved and transmitted them down to 'us, through fo many centuries; for the philosophy of them is wretched, and the reafoning part miferable. But eloquence will always pleafe, and has always pleafed. Study it therefore; make it the object of your thoughts and attention, Use yourself to relate elegantly; that is a good step towards fpeaking well in Parliament. Take fome political fubject, turn it in your thoughts, confider what may be faid, both for and against it, then put those arguments into writing, in the most correct and elegant English you can. For instance, a standing army, a place bill, &c.; as to the former, confider, on one fide, the dangers arifing to a free country from a great standing military force; on the other fide, consider the necessity of a force to repel force with. Examine whether a standing army, though in itself an evil, may not, from circumstances, become a necessary evil, and preventive of greater dangers. As to the latter, confider how far places may biass and

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and warp the conduct of men, from the fervice of their country, into an unwarrantable complaifance to the Court; and, on the other hand, confider whether they can be supposed to have that effect upon the conduct of people of probity and property. who are more folidly interested in the permanent good of their country, than they can be in an uncertain and precarious employment. Seek for, and answer in your own mind, all the arguments that can be urged on either fide, and write them down in an elegant ftyle. This will prepare you for debating, and give you an habitual eloquence; for I would not give a farthing for a mere holyday eloquence, displayed once or twice in a session, in a set declamation; but I want an every-day, ready, and habitual eloquence, to adorn extempere, and debating speeches; to make business not only clear but agreeable, and to please even those whom you cannot inform, and who do not defire to be informed. All this you may acquire, and make habitual to you, with as little trouble as it cost you to dance a minuet as well as you do. You now dance it mechanically, and well. without thinking of it.

I am surprised that you found but one letter from me at Manheim, for you ought to have found four or five; there are as many lying for you, at your banker's at Berlin, which I wish you had, because I always endeavoured to put something into them, which I hope may be of use to you.

When we meet at Spa, next July, we must have a great many serious conversations; in which I will pour

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pour out all my experience of the world, and which, I hope, you will trust to, more than to your own young notions of men and things. You will, in time, discover most of them to have been erroneous; and, if you follow them long, you will perceive your error too late; but, if you will be led by a guide, who, you are sure, does not mean to mislead you, you will unite two things, seldom united in the same person; the vivacity and spirit of youth, with the caution and experience of age.

Last Saturday, Sir Thomas Robinson*, who had been the King's Minister at Vienna, was declared Secretary of State for the southern department, Lord Holdernesse having taken the northern. Sir Thomas accepted it unwillingly, and, as I hear, with a promise that he shall not keep it long. Both his health and spirits are bad, two very disqualifying circumstances for that employment; yours, I hope, will enable you, some time or other, to go through with it. In all events, aim at it, and if you fail or fall, let it at least be said of you, Magnis tamen excidit auss. Adieu.

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[•] Created Lord Grantham in the year 1761, and fince Embaffador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Court of Spain,

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LETTER CCLXXVIII.

London, April the 5th, 1754.

HIMY DEAR FRIEND, John Standard Los

I Received, yesterday, your letter of the 20th March, from Manheim, with the enclosed for Mr. Eliot; it was a very proper one, and I have forwarded it to him by Mr. Harte, who sets out for Cornwall to-morrow morning.

I am very glad that you use yourself to translations; and I do not care of what, provided you fludy the correctness and elegancy of your style. The Life of Sextus Quintus is the best book of the innumerable books written by Gregorio Leti, whom the Italians, very justly, call Leti caca libri. But I would rather that you chose some pieces of oratory for your translations; whether ancient or modern, Latin or French, which would give you a more oratorial train of thoughts, and turn of expression. In your letter to me, you make use of two words, which, though true and correct English, are, however, from long difuse, become inelegant, and seem now to be stiff, formal, and in some degree scriptural: the first is the word namely, which you introduce thus, You inform me of a very agreeable piece of news, namely, that my election is secured. Instead of namely, I would always use, which is, or that is, that my election is fecured. The other word is, Mine own inclinations: this is certainly correct, before a subfequent

fequent word that begins with a vowel; but it is too correct, and is now disused as too formal, notwithftanding the biatus occasioned by my own. Every language has its peculiarities; they are established by ulage, and, whether right or wrong, they must be complied with. I could instance many very abfurd ones in different languages; but so authorised by the jus et norma loquendi, that they must be submitted to. Namely, and to wit, are very good words in themselves, and contribute to clearness, more than the relatives which we now substitute in their room; but, however, they cannot be used, except in a fermon, or some very grave and formal compositions. It is with language as with manners; they are both established by the usage of people of fashion; it must be imitated, it must be complied with. Singularity is only pardonable in old age and retirement; I may now be as fingular as I please, but you may not. We will, when we meet, discuss these and many other points, provided you will give me attention and credit; without both which it is to no purpose to advise either you or any body elfe. That and the constant social set

I want to know your determination, where you intend to (if I may use that expression) while away your time, till the last week in June, when we are to meet at Spa; I continue rather in the opinion which I mentioned to you formerly, in favour of the Hague; but however I have not the least objection to Dresden, or to any other place that you may like

like better. If you prefer the Dutch scheme, you take Treves and Coblentz in your way, as also Duffeldorp: all which places I think you have not yet feen, At Manheim you may certainly get good letters of recommendation to the Courts of the two Electors of Treves and Cologne, whom you are yet unacquainted with; and I should wish you to know them all. For, as I have often told you, olim bec meminisse juvabit. There is an utility in having feen what other people have feen, and there is a justifiable orlde in having feen what others have not feen. In the former case, you are equal to others: in the latter, superior. As your stay abroad will not now be very long, pray, while it lafts, fee every thing, and every body you can; and fee them well, with care and attention. It is not to be conceived of what advantage it is to any body to have feen more things, people, and countries, than other people in general have: it gives them a credit, makes them referred to, and they become the objects of the attention of the company. They are not out in any part of polite conversation; they are acquainted with all the places, customs, courts, and families, that are likely to be mentioned; they are, as Monsieur de Maupertuis justly observes, de tous les pais, comme les scavans sont de tous les tems. You have, fortunately, both those advantages; the only remaining point is de sçavoir les faire valoir; for without that, one may as well not have them. Remember that very true maxim of La Bruyere's, Qu'on ne vaut dans ce monde

que ce qu'on veut valoir. The knowledge of the world will teach you to what degree you ought to show ce que vous valez. One must by no means, on one hand, be indifferent about it; as, on the other, one must not display it with affectation, and in an overbearing manner: but, of the two, it is better to show too much than too little. Adieu.

Sq. Lor Entrant a E a R a CCLXXIX.

Bath, November the 27th, 1754.

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MY DEAR FRIEND, and was and worked to be

Heartily congratulate you upon the loss of your political maidenhead, of which I have received from others a very good account. I hear that you were stopped for some time in your career; but recovered breath, and finished it very well. I am not furprised, nor indeed concerned, at your accident; for I remember the dreadful feeling of that fituation in myself; and as it must require a most uncommon share of impudence to be unconcerned upon fuch an occasion, I am not fure that I am not rather glad you stopped. You must therefore now think of hardening yourfelf by degrees, by using yourself insensibly to the sound of your own voice, and to the act (trifling as it feems) of rifing up and fitting down again. Nothing will contribute fo much to this as committee work of elections at night, .

higher and of private bills in the morning. There asking short questions, moving for witnesses to be called in, and all that kind of imall ware, will foon fit you to let up for yourfelf. I am told that you are much mornified at your accident; but without reason, pray, let it rather be a spur than a curb to you. Persevere, and depend upon it, it will do well at last. When I fay persevere, I do not mean that you should speak every day, nor in every debate. Moreover, I would not advise you to speak again upon public matters for fome time, perhaps a month or two; but I mean, never lose view of that great object; purfue it with difcretion, but purfue it always. Pelotez en attendant partie. You know I have always told you, that focking in public was but a knack, which those who apply to most, will fucceed in best Two old Members, very good judges, have fent me compliments upon this occasion; and have affured me, that they plainly find it will do: though they perceived, from that natural confusion you were in, that you neither faid all, nor perhaps what you intended. Upon the whole, you have fet out very well, and have fufficient encouragement to go on. Attend therefore affiduoully, and observe carefully all that passes in the House, for it is only knowledge and experience that can make a debater. But if you ftill want comfort, Mrs. ---, I hope, will administer it to you; for in my opinion she may, if she will, be very comfortable: and with women, as with speak-Vor. IV.

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ing in Parliament, perseverance will most certainly prevail, sooner or later.

What little I have played for here, I have won; but that is very far from the confiderable fum which you heard of. I play every evening from feven till ten, at a crown whift party, merely to fave my eyes from reading or writing for three hours by candle-light. I propose being in town the week after next, and hope to carry back with me much more health than I brought down here. Good night.

Mr. Stanhope being returned to England, and seeing his Father almost every day, is the occasion of an interruption of two years in their correspondence.

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L E T T E R CCLXXX.

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"MY DEAR FRIEND hosed with the very substitution

Received yours vesterday morning, together with the Prussian papers, which I have read with great attention. If Courts could blush, those of Vienna and Drefden ought, to have their falfehoods fo publicly and fo undeniably exposed. The former will, I prefume, next year, employ an hundred thoufand men, to answer the accusation; and if the Empress of the Two Russias is pleased to argue in the fame cogent manner, their logic will be too ftrong for all the King of Prussia's rhetoric. I well remember the treaty so often referred to in those pieces. between the two Empresses, in 1746. The King was ftrongly preffed by the Empress Queen to accede to it. Wassenaer communicated it to me for that purpose. I asked him if there were no secret articles: fuspecting that there were some, because the oftenfible treaty was a mere harmless defensive one. He affured me there were none. Upon which I told him, that as the King had already defensive alliances with those two Empresses, I did not see of what use his accession to this treaty, if merely a defensive one, could be, either to himself or the other contracting parties; but that, however, if it was only defired as an indication of the King's good-will, I would give him an act, by which his Majesty should accede to that treaty, as far, but no farther, as at prefent he flood engaged to the respective Empresses, by the defensive RETTER G 2

defensive alliances subsisting with each. This offer by no means fatisfied him; which was a plain proof of the secret articles now brought to light, and into which the Court of Vienna hoped to draw us. I told Wassenaer so, and after that I heard no more of his invitation.

I am still bewildered in the changes at Court, of which I find that all the particulars are not yet fixed. Who would have thought, a year ago, that Mr. Fox, the Chancellor, and the Duke of Newcastle, should all three have quitted together? nor can I yet account for it; explain it to me, if you can. I cannot see, neither, what the Duke of Devonshire and Fox, whom I looked upon as intimately united, can have quarrelled about, with relation to the Treasury; inform me, if you know. I never doubted of the prudent versatility of your Vicar of Bray; but I am surprised at Obrien Windham's going out of the Treasury, where I should have thought that the interest of his brother-in-law, George Grenville, would have kept him.

Having found myself rather, worse, these two or three last days, I was obliged to take some ipecacuana last night, and, what you will think odd, for a womin, I brought it all up again in about an hour, to my great satisfaction and emolument, which is seldom the case in restitutions.

who, I suppose, will have no more levees; however, go from time to time, and leave your name at his door, for you have obligations to him.

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Bath, December the 14th, 1756.

TITHAT can I fay to you from this place, where every day is still but as the first, though by no means fo agreeably passed, as Anthony describes his to have been? The fame nothings fucceed one another every day with me, as regularly and uniformly as the hours of the day. "You will think this tireforie, and fo it is; but how can I help it? Cut off from fociety by my deafness, and dispirited by my ill health, where could I be better? You will fay, perhaps, where could you be worfe? Only in prison, or the galleys, I confess. However I see a period to my fray here; and I have fixed, in my own mind, a time for my return to London; not invited there by either politics or pleafures (to both which I am equally a stranger) but merely to be at home; which, after all, according to the vulgar faying, is home, be it never fo homely.

The political fettlement, as it is called, is, I find, by no means fettled! Mr. Fox, who took this place in his way to his brother's, where he intended to pais a month, was stopped short by an express, which he received from his connection, to come to town immediately; and accordingly he fet out from hence very early, two days ago. I had a very long conversation with him, in which he was, seemingly at least, very frank and communicative: but still I own myself in the dark. In those matters, as in

most others, half knowledge (and mine is at most that) is more apt to lead one into error, than to carry one to truth; and our own vanity contributes to the seduction. Our conjectures pass upon us for truths; we will know what we do not know, and often, what we cannot know: so mortifying to our pride is the bare suspicion of ignorance!

It has been reported here, that the Empress of Russia is dying; this would be a fortunate event indeed for the King of Prussia, and necessarily produce the neutrality and inaction, at least, of that great Power; which would be a heavy weight taken out of the opposite scale to the King of Prussia. The Augustissima must, in that case, do all herself; for, though France will no doubt promise largely, it will, I believe, perform but scantily; as it desires no better, than that the different powers of Germany should tear one another to pieces.

I hope you frequent all the Courts; a man should make his face familiar there. Long habit produces favour insensibly: and acquaintance often does more than friendship, in that climate, where les beaux sentimens are not the natural growth.

from reading, and my mind from thinking.

must last decide his fare, and make him Cæfat or no him greatest tanger, in my mind, lies wellward. I have no great notion of Apraxin's abilities, and I believe many a Pruffith Colonel would out-general him. But Brown,

L E T T E R CCLXXXII.

Bath, January the 12th, 1757.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Waited quietly, to see when either your leisure, or your inclinations, would allow you to honour me with a letter; and at last I received one this morning, very near a fortnight after you went from hence. You will say, that you had no news to write me; and that probably may be true; but, without news, one has always something to say to those with whom one desires to have any thing to do.

Your observation is very just with regard to the King of Pruffia, whom the most august House of Austria would most unquestionably have poisoned a century or two ago. But now that Terras Africa reliquit, Kings and Princes die of natural deaths; even war is pufillanimoully carried on in this degenerate age, quarter is given; towns are taken, and the people spared: even in a storm, a woman can hardly hope for the benefit of a rape. Whereas (fuch was the humanity of former days) prisoners were killed by thoufands in cold blood, and the generous victors spared neither man, woman, nor child. Heroic actions of this kind were performed at the taking of Magdebourg. The King of Prussia is certainly now in a situation that must soon decide his fate, and make him Cæfar or nothing. Notwithstanding the march of the Russians, his greatest danger, in my mind, lies westward. I have no great notion of Apraxin's abilities, and I believe many a Pruffian Colonel would out-general him. But Brown, Piccolominia g albigue G 4

Piccolomini, Lucchese, and many other veteran officers in the Austrian troops, are respectable enemies.

Mr. Pitt seems to me to have almost as many enemies to encounter as his Prussian Majesty. The late Ministry, and the Duke's party, will, I presume, unite against him and his Tory friends: and then quarrel among themselves again. His best, if not his only chance of supporting himself would be, if he had credit enough in the city, to hinder the advancing of the money to any Administration but his own; and I have met with some people here who think that he has.

think that he has.

I have put off my journey from hence for a week,
but no longer. I find I still gain some strength and
some stell here, and therefore I will not cut, while
the fun is for me.

By a letter which I received this morning from Lady Allen, I observe that you are extremely well with her; and it is well for you to be so, for she is an excellent and warm puff.

A propor (an expression which is commonly used to introduce whatever is unrelative to it) you should apply to some of Lord Holdernesse's people, for the periods of Mr. Cope's letters. It will not be refused you; and the sooner you have them the better. I do not mean them as models for your manner of writing, but as our-lines of the matter you are to write upon.

If you have not read Hume's Essays, read them; they are four very small volumes; I have just finished, and am extremely pleased with them. He thinks impartially,

impartially, deep, often new; and in my mind commonly just a partial troop, commonly just a partial troop, commonly just a look a look one as how a look as many one

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Blackheath, September the 17th, 1757 d

MY DEAR PRIEND,

ORD Holderneffe has been fo kind as to communicate to me all the letters which he has received from you hitherto, dated the 15th, 19th, 23d, and 26th August; and also a draught of that which he write to you the 9th instant. I am very well d pleafed with all your letters, and, what is better, I can tell you that the King is fo too; and he faid, but three days ago, to Monsieur Münchausen, He (means ing you) fees out very well, and I like his letters; previded that, like most of my English Ministers abroad, be does not grow idle beveafter. So that here is both in praise to flatter, and a kint to warn you. What Lord Holdernesse recommends to you, being by the King's order, intimates also a degree of approbation; for ide the blacker ink, and the larger character, show, that no his Majeffy, whose eyes are grown weaker, intends ov to read all your letters himself. Therefore, pray ion do not neglect to get the blackest ink you can; and und to make your Secretary enlarge his hand, thoughout d'ailleurs it is a very good one, I beer ton even voy II

Had I been to wish an advantageous situation for you, and a good debut in it, I could not have wished by you either, better than both have hitherto proved.

The

The rest will depend intirely upon yourself; and I own, I begin to have much better hopes than I had; for I know, by my own experience, that the more one works, the more willing one is to work. We are all, more or less, des animaux d'habitude. I remember very well, that when I was in buliness, I wrote four or five hours together every day, more willingly than I should now half an hour dand this is most certain, that when a man has applied himself to bufinels half the day, the other half goes off the more chearfully and agreeably. This I found to fenfibly, when I was at the Hague, that I never fasted company to well, nor was to good company myfelf, as at the suppers of my post days. I take Hamburgh now, to be le centre du refuge Allemand. If you have any Hanover refugiés among them, pray take care to be particularly attentive to them. How do you like your house? Is it a convenient one? Have the Casserolles been employed in it yet? You will find les petits foupers fins less expensive, and turn to better account, than large dinners for great companies.

I hope you have written to the Duke of New-castle; I take it for granted, that you have to all your brother. Ministers of the northern department. For God's sake be diligent, alert, active, and indefatigable in your business. You want nothing but labour and industry, to be, one day, whatever you please, in your own way.

We think and talk of nothing here but Brest, which is universally supposed to be the object of our great expedition. A great and important object it

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is. I suppose the affair must be brusque, or it will not do. If we succeed, it will make France put some water to its wine. As for my own private opinion, I own I rather wish than hope success. However, should our expedition fail, Magnis tamen excidit auss, and that will be better than our late languid manner of making war.

To mention a person to you whom I am very indisferent about, I mean myself, I vegetate still just as I did when we parted; but I think I begin to be sensible of the autumn of the year, as well as of the autumn of my own life. I feel an internal awkwardness, which in about three weeks I shall carry with me to the Bath, where I hope to get rid of it, as I did last year. The best cordial I could take, would be to hear, from time to time, of your industry and diligence; for in that case I should consequently hear of your success. Remember your own motto, Nullum numen abest si sit prudentia. Nothing is truer. Yours.

LETTER ROOCCLXXXIV.

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Blackheath, September the 23d, 1737.

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MY DEAR FRIEND,

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is

I Received but the day before yesterday your letter of the 3d, from the head-quarters at Selsingen; and, by the way, it is but the second that I have received from you since your arrival at Hamburgh. Whatever was the cause of your going to the army, I approve of the effect; for I would have you, as much

much as possible, fee every thing that is to be feen; That is the grue ofeful knowledge, which informs and improves us when we are young, and amuses us and others, when we are old. Olim bec meminisse juvabit. I could with that you would (but I know you will not) enter in a book, a fhort note only, of whatever you see or hear, that is very remarkable; I do not mean a German album, stuffed with people's names, and Latin fentences; but I mean fuch a book as, if you do not keep now, thirty years hence you would give a great deal of money to have kept, Apropos de bottes, for I am told he always wears his: was his Royal Highness very gracious to you, or not ? I have my doubts about it. The neutrality. which he has concluded with Marechal de Richelieu. will prevent that bloody battle which you expected; but what the King of Pruffia will fay to it, is another point. He was our only ally; at prefent, probably we have not one in the world. If the King of Pruffia can get at Monfieur de Soubize's and the Imperial army, before other troops have joined them, I think be will beat them , but what then ? He has three hundred thousand men to encounter afterwards. He must submine, but he may fay with truth, Si Rengama dextra defendi possent-The late action between the Plansfians and Rufflans has only thinned the human species, without giving either party a wickery; which is plain by each party's claiming it illpon my word, our species will pay very dear for the quarrels and ambition of a few, and those by no means the most valuable part of it. If the nifferra many

many were wifer than they save the few multibe quieter, and would perhaps be juffer and better than they are nown a project an exchange as severame but

Hamburgh, I find, frames with Grafs, Graffins, Hirfts, and Pirftins, Hocketts, and Durchlang ticketts of them; and I am still more glad, that, being in the midst of them, you must reconstraint of ceremony a mail reconstraint of ceremony a mail which you do not love, but which is, however, very useful.

I defired you in my last, and I repeat it again in this. to give me an account of your private and domestic life. How do you pass your evenings? Have they, at Hamburgh, what are called at Paris des Mailons. where one goes without ceremony, fups or notices one pleases? Are you adopted in any society? Have you any rational brother Ministers, and which P Wish fort of things are your operas ? w In the tendered doubt they do not excel , for mein lieber febata, and the other tendernesses of the Tentonic danguage. would, in my mind, found but indifferently fet to foft music; for the bravura pasts. Il have a werk great opinion of them; and das der donner dies erschläge, must, no doubt, make a tremendousty fine piece of recitative, when uttered by an anger boro. to the rumble of a whole orchestra, including drums, trumpets, and French-horns, Tell me war whole allotment of the day, in which I hope four hours at leaft, are facted to writing to the others cannot be better employed than in liberal pleafures. In thort, give the a full account of yourfelf in your un coinisterial dryman!

nisterial character, your incognito, without your flocchi: I love to fee those, in whom I interest myself, in their undress, rather than in gala; I know them better for I recommend to you, etiam atque etiam, method and order in every thing you undertake. Do you observe it in your accounts ? If you do not, you will be a beggar, though you were to receive the appointments of a Spanish Embassador extraordinary, which are a thousand pistoles a month; and in your ministerial business, if you have not regular and stated hours for such and such parts of it, you will be in the hurry and confusion of the Duke of N----, doing every thing by halves, and nothing well, nor foon. I fuppose you have been feasted through the Corps diplomatique at Hamburgh, excepting Monsieur Champeaux; with whom, however, I hope you live poliment et galamment, at all third fore of slimes and sour opens? places.

Lord Loudon is much blamed here for his retraite des dix milles, for it is said that he had above that number, and might consequently have acted offensively, instead of retreating; especially as his retreat was contrary to the unanimous opinion (as it is now said) of the council of war. In our Ministry, I suppose, things go pretty quietly, for the D. of N. has not plagued me these two months. When his Royal Highness comes over, which I take it for granted he will do very soon, the great push will, I presume, be made at his Grace and Mr. Pitt; but without effect if they agree, as it is visibly their interest to do; and in that case, their Parliamentary strength

firength will support them against all attacks. Your may remember, I said at first, that the popularity would soon be on the side of those who opposed the popular Militia Bill; and now it appears so with a vengeance, in almost every county in England, by the tumults and insurrections of the people, who swear that they will not be inlisted of hat silly scheme must therefore be dropped, as quietly as may be. Now I have told you all that I know, and always a good hight. I wish you a good supper, and a good night.

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Blackheath, September the 30th, 1757,

Have so little to do, that I am surprised how I can find time to write to you so often. Do not stare at the seeming paradox; for it is an undoubted truth, That the less one has to do, the less time one finds to do it in. One yawns, one procrastinates; one can do it when one will, and therefore one seldom does it at all; whereas those who have a great deal of business, must (to use a vulgar expression) buckle to it; and then they always find time enough to do it in. I hope your own experience has, by this time, convinced you of this truth.

I received your last, of the 8th. It is now quite over with a very great man, who will still be a very

great man, though a very unformate one. He has qualities of the mind that put him above the reach of these misfortunes; and if reduced as perhap's he may to the marthe of Brandenburghy he will always find in himfelf the comfort, and with all the world the credit, of a philosopher, a legislator, a patron and a professor of arts and sciences. He will only lose the fame of a conqueror i a crost fame. that arises from the destruction of the human species. Could it be any fausfection to him to know I could tell him, that he is at this time the most popular man in this kingdom: the whole nation being enraged at that neutrality which haftens and completes his ruin. Between you and me, the King was not less enraged at it himself, when he saw the terms of it; and it affected his health more than all that had happened before. Indeed, it feems to me a voluntary concession of the very worst that could have happened in the worst event. We now begin to think that our great and secret expedition is intended for Martinico and St. Domingo; if that be true, and we fuccoed in the attempt, we shall recover, and the French lofe, one of the most valuable branches of commerce, I mean fugar. The French now supply all the foreign markets in Europe with that commodity, we only supply ourselves with it. This would make us fome amends for our ill luck, on ill conduct, in North America, where Lord Loudon, with twelve thousand men, thought himself no metch for the French with but feven; and Admiral Holbourne, with seventeen thips of the line, declined attacking - CONTRACTOR . the

the French, because they had eighteen, and a greater weight of metal, according to the new fea-phrase, which was unknown to Blake. I hear that letters have been fent to both, with very severe reprimands. I am told, and I believe it is true, that we are negotlating with the Corfican, I will not fay rebels, but affertors of their natural rights; to receive them, and whatever form of government they think fit to establish, under our protection, upon condition of their delivering up to us Port Ajaccio; which may be made fo strong and so good a one, as to be a full equivalent for the loss of Port Mahon. This is, in my mind, a very good scheme; for though the Corficans are a parcel of cruel and perfidious rafeals, they will in this case be tied down to us by their own interest and their own danger; a folid security with knaves, though none with fools. His Royal Highness the Duke is hourly expected here: his arrival will make some buftle; for I believe it is certain, that he is refolved to make a push at the Duke of N. Pitt, and Co; but it will be ineffectual, if they continue tolagree, as, to my certain knowledge, they do at prefent. This Parliament is theirs, catera quis nescit.

Now I have told you all I know, or have heard, of public matters, let us talk of private ones, that more nearly and immediately concern us. Admit me to your fire-fide, in your little room; and as you would converse with me there, write to me for the future from thence. Are you completely nippe yet? Have you formed what the world calls connections; that is, a certain number of acquaintances, Vol. IV.

whom, from accident or choice, you frequent more than others? Have you either fine or well-bred women there? Y a-t-ih quelque bon ton? All fat and fair, I presume; too proud and too cold to make advances, but at the same time, too well bred, and too warm to reject them, when made by un bonnête bomme avec des manieres.

Mr. * is to be married, in about a month, to Mifs * *. I am very glad of it; for, as he will never be a man of the world, but will always lead a domestic and retired life, she seems to have been made on purpose for him. Her natural turn is as grave and domestic as his; and she seems to have been kept by her aunts à la glace, instead of being raised in a hot-bed, as most young ladies are of late. If, three weeks hence, you write him a short compliment of congratulation upon the occasion, he, his mother, and tutti quanti, would be extremely pleafed with it. Those attentions are always kindly taken, and cost one nothing but pen, ink, and paper. I confider them as draughts upon good-breeding, where the exchange is always greatly in favour of the drawer. A propos of exchange; I hope you have, with the help of your Secretary, made yourfelf correctly mafter of all that fort of knowledge-Courfe of Exchange, Agio, Banco, Reichs-Thalers, down to Marien Groschen. It is very little trouble to learn it; it is often of great use to know it. Good night, and God bles you! that the Ment of the look operations, will lepond upon the wind. If to, faid

the General Ell e'eu go whe again. A. Council

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Blackheath, October the 10th, 1757.

vances, but at the lane were, dual R AAA YM

T is not without some difficulty that I snatch this moment of leifure from my extreme idlenefs, to inform you of the present lamentable and aftenishing state of affairs here, which you would know but imperfectly from the public papers, and but partially from your private correspondents. On fus then-Our invincible Armada, which cost at least half a million, failed, as you know, fome weeks ago; the object kept an inviolable fecret: | conjectures various, and expectations great. Breft was perhaps to be taken; but Martinico and St. Domingo, at least. When lo! the important island of Aix was taken without the least relistance, seven hundred men made prisoners, and some pieces of gannon carried off. From thence we failed towards Rochefort, which it feems was our main object; and confequently one should have supposed that we had pilots on board who knew all the foundings and landing-places there and thereabouts; but no; for General M-t asked the Admiral, if he could land him and the troops near Rochefort? The Admiral faid, With great eafe. To which the General replied; But can you take us on board again? To which the Admiral answered, That, like all naval operations, will depend upon the wind. If fo, faid the General, I'll e'en go home again. A Council HATT

of War was immediately called, where it was unanimously resolved that it was adviseable to return ; accordingly they are returned. As the expectations of the whole nation had been raised to the highest pitch, the univerfal disappointment and indignation have arisen in proportion; and I question whether the ferment of men's minds was ever greater. Sufpicions, you may be fure, are various and endless; but the most prevailing one is, that the tail of the Hanover neutrality, like that of a comet, extended itself to Rochefort. What encourages this suspicion is, that a French man of war went unmolefted through our whole fleet, as it lay near Rochefort. Haddock's whole flory is revived; Michel's reprefentations are combined with other circumstances; and the whole together makes up a mass of discontent, refentment, and even fury, greater than perhaps was ever known in this country before These are the facts, draw your own conclusions from them: for my part, I am loft in aftonisha ment and conjectures, and do not know where to fix. My experience has shown me, that many things which feem extremely probable, are not true; and many, which feem highly improbable, are true; fo that I will conclude this article, as Josephus does almost every article of his history, with faying, but of this every man will believe as he thinks proper. What a difgraceful year will this be in the annals of this country! May its good genius, if ever it appears again, tear out those sheets, thus stained and blotted by our ignominy!

Our domestic affairs are, as far as I know any thing of them, in the fame lituation as when I wrote to you last; but they will begin to be in motion. upon the approach of the fession, and upon the return of the Duke; whose arrival is most impatiently expected by the mob of London; though not to the ferment of men's minds way said in erswoh worth

I leave this place next Saturday, and London the Saturday following, to be the next day at Bath, Hanover neutrality, like that of a corner, extrosibA

felelf to Rocheftert. What incourages this fully sion!

through our whole ficer, as it lay near Rechefort, HadIVXXXVIDE R R CCLXXXVIIIAH fentations are combined with other circumstances;

Tie fo stans e que sol London, Ocober the 17th, 175715

content, refentment, and oven , dual France ry

TOUR last, of the 30th past, was a very good, letter: and I will believe half of what your affure me, that you returned to the Landgrave's civilities. I cannot possibly go farther than halfknowing that you are not lavish of your words, especially in that species of eloquence called the adulatory. Do not use too much discretion, in profiting of the Landgrave's naturalization of you; but go pretty often and feed with him. Chuse the company of your fuperiors, whenever you can have it that is the right and true pride. The mistaken and filly pride is, to primer among inferiors in the things

Hear, O Ifrael | fand wonder. On Sunday morn-

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ing last, the Duke gave up his commission of Captain General, and his regiment of guards. You will ask me why? I cannot tell you; but I will tell you the causes affigned; which, perhaps, are none of them the true ones. It is faid that the King reproached him with having exceeded his powers, in making the Hanover Convention; which his R. H. absolutely denied, and threw up thereupon. This is certain, that he appeared at the drawing-room at Kenfington, last Sunday after having quitted, and went strait to Windsor; where, his people fay, that he intends to relide quietly, and amuse himself as a private man. But I conjecture that matters will foon be made up again, and that he will refume his employments. You will eafily imagine what speculations this event has occasioned in the public; I shall neither trouble you, nor myfelf, with relating them; nor would this sheet of paper, or even a quire more, contain them. Some refine enough, to suspect that it is a concerted quarrel, to justify fomebody to somebody, with regard to the Convention, but I do not believe it.

His R. H.'s people load the Hanover Ministers, and more particularly our friend Münchausen here, with the whole blame; but with what degree of truth I know not. This only is certain, that the whole negotiation of that affair was broached, and carried on, by the Hanover Ministers, and Monsieur Steinberg at Vienna, absolutely unknown to the English Ministers, till it was executed. This affair combined

combined (for people will combine it) with the altonishing return of our great ar nament, not only ire infetta, but even intentata, makes fuch a jumble of reflections, conjectures, and refinements, that one is weary of hearing them. Our Tacituses and Machiavels go deep, suspect the worst, and perhaps, as they often do, overshoot the mark. For my own part, I fairly confess that I am bewildered, and have not certain postulata enough, not only to found any opinion, but even to form conjectures upon; and this is the language which I think you should hold to all who speak to you, as to be fure all will, upon that subject. Plead, as you truly may, your own ignorance; and fay, that it is impossible to judge of those nice points, at such a distance, beand without knowing all circumstances, which you cannot be supposed to do. And as to the Duke's religiation; you should, in my opinion, fay, that perhaps there might be a little too much vivacity in the case; but that, upon the whole, you make no doubt of the thing's being foon fet right again; as, in truth, I dare fay it will. Upon these delicate occasions you must practife the ministerial shrugs and perfiftage; for filent gesticulations, which you would be most inclined to, would not be suffirient: formething must be said; but that somebuthing, when analysed, must amount to nothing. As for instance, Il est vrai qu'on s'y perd, mais que voulez vous que je vous dise,—il y a bien du pour et du in contre, un petit Resident ne voit gueres le fond du sac. Il faut attendre—Those fort of expletives are of in-H 4 finite

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finite use; and nine people in ten think they mean fomething. But to the Landgrave of Hesse, I think you would do well to fay, in feeming confidence, that you have good reason to believe, that the principal objection of his Majesty to the Convention was, that his Highness's interests, and the affair of his troops, were not sufficiently considered in it, To the Prussian Minister, affert boldly, that you know de science certaine, that the principal object of his Majesty's, and his British Ministry's attention, is not only to perform all their present engagements with his Master, but to take new and stronger ones for his support; for this is true-at least at present.

You did very well in inviting Comte Bothmar to dine with you. You fee how minutely I am informed of your proceedings, though not from your-

felf. Adieu, ent some one being lacing I go to Bath next Saturday; but direct your letters, as usual, to London.

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with and od as grily Bath, October the 26th, 1757,

MY DEAR FRIEND,

melt her arrange Arrived here safe, but far from sound, last Sunday. I have confequently drank these waters but for them. The night before I left London, I washing

for forme hours at Newcastle-house; where the settlers, which came in that morning, lay upon the table; and his Grace singled out yours, with great approbation, and at the same time assured me of his Majesty's approbation too. To these two approbations, I truly add my own, which, sans vanite, may perhaps be near as good as the other two. In that letter you venture vos petits raisomemens very properly, and then as properly make an excuse for doing so. Go on so with diligence, and you will be, what I began to despair of your ever being, somebody. I am persuaded, if you would own the truth, that you feel yourself now much better fatisfied with yourself, than you were while you did nothing.

Application to business, attended with approbation and fuccess, flatters and animates the mind; which, in idleness and inaction, stagnates and putrefies. I could wish, that every rational man would, every night when he goes to bed, ask himself this question, What have I done to-day? Have I done any thing that can be of use to myself or others? Have I employed my time, or have I squandered it? Have I lived out the day, or have I dozed it away in floth and laziness? A thinking Being must be pleafed or confounded, according as he can answer himself these questions. I observe that you are in the secret of what is intended, and what Münchausen is gone to Stade to prepare. A bold and dangerous experiment, in my mind; and which may probably end in a second volume to the History of the Palatinate.

latinate, in the last century. His Serene Highness of Brunswick has, in my mind, played a prudent and a saving game; and I am apt to believe, that the other Serene Highness, at Hamburgh, is more likely to follow his example, than to embark in the great scheme.

I fee no figns of the Duke's refuming his employments; but, on the contrary, I am affured, that his Majesty is cooly determined to do as well as he can without him. The Duke of Devonshire, and Fox, have worked hard to make up matters in the closet, but to no purpose. People's self-love is very apt to make them think themselves more necessary than they are; and I shrewdly suspect, that his Royal Highness has been the dupe of that sentiment, and was taken at his word when he least expected it: like my predecessor, Lord Harrington; who, when he went into the closet to resign the seals, had them not about him; so sure he thought himself of being pressed to keep them.

The whole talk of London, of this place, and of every place in the whole kingdom, is of our great, expensive, and yet fruitless expedition: I have seen an Officer who was there, a very sensible and observing man; who told me, that had we attempted Rochefort, the day after we took the island of Aix, our success had been infallible; but that after we had sauntered (God knows why) eight or ten days in the island, he thinks the attempt would have been impracticable; because the French had

in that time got together all the troops in that neighbourhood, to a very confiderable number. In fhort, there must have been some secret in that whole affair, which has not yet transpired; and I cannot help suspecting that it came from Stade. We had not been successful there; perhaps we were not defirous, that an expedition, in which we had neither been concerned nor confulted, should prove so: M-t was our creature; and a word to the wife will sometimes go a great way. M-t is to have a public trial, from which the public expects great discoveries - Not I. on का निर्माण कर

Do you visit Soltikow, the Russian Minister, whose house, I am told, is the great scene of pleasures at Hamburgh? His mistress, I take for granted, is by this time dead, and he wears some other body's shackles. Her death comes, with regard to the King of Pruffia, comme la moutarde après diner. I am curious to fee what tyrant will fucceed her, not by Divine, but by Military right; for, barbarous as they are now, and still more barbarous as they have been formerly, they have had very little regard to the more barbarous notion of divine, indefeafible, here-"ditary right." of the thing of the swin groung

The Prætorian bands, that is the guards, I prefame, have been engaged in the interests of the Imperial Prince; but ftill I think that little John of Archangel will be heard of upon this occasion, unless prevented by a quieting draught of Flemlock or Nightshade; for I suppose they are not bevirus been impulficable because the French had

arrived to the politer and genteeler poisons of Acqua

Lord Halifax has accepted his old employment, with the honorary addition of the Cabinet Council. And so we heartily wish you a good night. and now subject soffered to do the humass with two hum-

L E To Told E R CCLXXXIX. L E T T E R

obcased political much ines, there are formany wheels

and dree thing only. In all viet com-

Bath, November the 4th, 1757.

MY DEAR FRIEND, was it is low it lightly on

believe

HE fons of Britain, like those of Noah, must cover their parent's shame as well as they can; for to retrieve its honour is now too late. One would really think that our Ministers and Generals were alboas drunk as the Patriarch was. However, in your fituation, you must not be Cham; but spread your cloak over our difgrace, as far as it will go. M t calls aloud for a public trial; and in that, and that only, the public agrees with him. There will certainly be one; but of what kind is not yet fixed. Some are for a Parliamentary inquiry, others for a Martial one: neither will, in my opinion, discover the true secret; for a secret there most unquestionably is. Why we staid six whole days in the island of Aix, mortal cannot imagine;

grildmela and the maparial as you well enew are clear water, and invented by a woman at Naples, of the name of Tufana. and the new for his own jud fication : I can berdly

which time the French employed, as it was obvious they would, in affembling all their troops in the neighbourhood of Rochefort, and making our attempt then really impracticable. The day after we bad taken the island of Aix, your friend, Colonel Wolfe, publicly offered to do the business with five hundred men and three ships only. In all these complicated political machines, there are fo many wheels within wheels, that it is always difficult, and fometimes impossible, to guess which of them gives direction to the whole. Mr. Pitt is convinced that the principal wheel, or, if you will, the spoke in bis wheel, came from Stade. This is certain, at least, that M t was the man of confidence with that person. Whatever be the truth of the case, there is, to be fure, hitherto, an Hiatus valde deflendus.

The meeting of the Parliament will certainly be very numerous, were it only from curiofity; but the majority on the fide of the Court will, I dare fay, be a great one. The people of the late Captain General, however inclined to oppose, will be obliged to concur. Their commissions, which they have no defire to lofe, will make them tractable; for those Gentlemen, though all men of honour, are of Sofia's mind; que le vrai Amphitrion est celui ou l'on dine. The Tories, and the City, have engaged to support Pitter the Whigs, the Duke of Newcastle; the indevident pendent, and the impartial, as you well know, are not worth mentioning. It is faid, that the Duke intends to bring the affair of his Convention into Parliament, for his own justification: I can hardly rio explin believe

believe it; as I cannot conceive that transactions for merely Electoral can be proper objects of inquiry or deliberation for a British Parliament; and therefore, should fuch a motion be made. I presume it will be immediately quashed. By the commission lately given to Sir John Ligonier, of General and Commander in Chief of all his Majesty's forces in Great Britain, the door feems to be not only shut, but bolted, against his Royal Highness's return and I have good reason to be convinced, that that breach is irreparable. The reports of changes in the Ministry, I am pretty fure, are idle and groundless. The Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Pitt really agree very well; not, I prefume, from any fentimental tenderness for each other, but from a sense that it is their mutual interest; and, as the late Captain General's party is now out of the question, I do not see what should produce the least change.

The visit, lately made to Berlin, was, I dare say, neither a friendly nor an inosfensive one. The Austrians always leave behind them pretty lasting monuments of their visits, or rather visitations; not so much, I believe, from their thirst of glory, as from their hunger of prey.

This winter, I take for granted, must produce a peace of some kind or another; a bad one for us, no doubt, and yet perhaps better than we should get the year after. I suppose the King of Prussia is negotiating with France, and endeavouring by those means to get out of the scrape, with the loss only of Silesia, and perhaps Halberstadt, by way of indemnification

fures.

nification to Saxony; and, confidering all circumfrances, he would be well off upon those terms. But then how is Sweden to be fatisfied? Will the Ruffians reftore Memel & Will France have been at all this expence gratis? Must there be no acquisition for them in Flanders? I dare fay they have stipulated fomething of that fort for themselves, by the additional and fecret treaty, which I know they made, last May, with the Queen of Hungary Must we give up whatever the French please to defire in America, besides the cession of Minorca in perpetuity? I fear we must, or elle raise twelves millions more next year, to as little purpose as we did this, and have confequently a worse peace afterwards. I turn my eyes away, as much as I can, from this miserable prospect; but, as a citizen and member of fociety, it recurs to my imagination, notwithstanding all my endeavours to banish it from my thoughts. I can do myfelf or my country no good; but I feel the wretched fituation of both: the state of the latter makes me better bear that of the former; and, when I am called away from my station here, I shall think it rather (as Cicero fays of Crassus) Mors donata quam vita erepta.

bhave often defired, but in vain, the favour of being admitted into your private apartment at Hamburgh, and of being informed of your private life there Your mornings, I hope land believe, are employed in business; but give me an account of the remainder of the day, which I suppose is, and ought to be, appropriated to amusements and plea-

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fures. In what houses are you domestic? Who are so in yours? In short, let me in, and do not be denied to me.

Here I am, as usual, seeing few people, and hearing sewer; drinking the waters regularly to a minute, and am something the better for them. I read a great deal, and vary occasionally my dead company. I converse with grave folios in the morning, while my head is clearest, and my attention strongest; I take up less severe quartos after dinner; and at night I chuse the mixed company and amusing chit-chat of octavos and duodecimos. Je tire parti de tout ce que je puis; that is my philosophy; and I mitigate, as much as I can, my physical ills, by diverting my attention to other objects.

Here is a report that Admiral Holbourne's fleet is destroyed, in a manner, by a storm: I hope it is not true, in the full extent of the report; but I believe it has suffered. This would fill up the measure of our

misfortunes. Adieu.

LETTER CCXC.

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Bath, November the 20th, 1757.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

I Write to you now, because I love to write to you; and hope that my letters are welcome to you; for otherwise I have very little to inform you of. The King of Prussia's late victory, you are better

better informed of than we are here. It has given infinite joy to the unthinking public, who are not aware that it comes too late in the year, and too late in the war, to be attended with any very great consequences. There are fix or seven thousand of the human species less than there were a month ago, and that feems to me to be all. However, I am glad of it, upon account of the pleasure and the glory which it gives the King of Pruffia, to whom I wish well as a man, more than as a King. And furely he is fo great a man, that had he lived feventeen or eighteen hundred years ago, and his life been transmitted to us in a language that we could not very well understand, I mean either Greek or Latin, we should have talked of him as we do now of your Alexanders, your Cæfars, and others, with whom, I believe, we have but a very flight acquaintance. Au reste, I do not see that his affairs are much mended by this victory. The fame combination of the great Powers of Europe against him still subsists, and must at last prevail. I believe the French army will melt away, as is usual, in Germany; but his army is extremely diminished by battles, fatigues, and defertion; and he will find great difficulties in recruiting it, from his own already exhausted dominions. He must therefore, and to be fure will, negotiate privately with the French, and get better terms that way than he could any other. . - s are the governor bear out

The report of the three General Officers, the Duke of Marlborough, Lord George Sackville, and Vol. IV.

General

General Waldegrave, was laid before the King last Saturday, after their having fat four days upon M---t's affair: nobody yet knows what it is; but it is generally believed, that M-t will be brought to a Court-Martial. That you may not mistake this matter, as most people here do, I must explain to you, that this examination, before the three abovementioned General Officers, was by no means a trial; but only a previous inquiry into his conduct, to fee whether there was, or was not, cause to bring him to a regular trial before a Court-martial. The case is exactly parallel to that of a grand jury; who, upon a previous and general examination, find, or do not find, a bill, to bring the matter before the petty jury; where the fact is finally tried. For my own part, my opinion is fixed upon that affair: I am convinced that the expedition was to be defeated; and nothing that can appear before a Court-martial can make me alter that opinion. I have been too long acquainted with human nature, to have great regard for human testimony: and a very great degree of probability, fupported by various concurrent circumstances, conspiring in one point, will have much greater weight with me, than human testimony upon oath, or even upon honour; both which I have frequently feen confiderably warped by private views.

The Parliament, which now stands prorogued to the first of next month, it is thought, will be put off for some time longer, till we know in what light to lay before it the state of our alliance with Prussia, since the conclusion of the Hanover neutrality; which, if it did not quite break it, made at least a great flaw in it.

The birth-day was neither fine nor crowded; and no wonder, fince the King was that day feventy-five. The old Court and the young one are much better together, fince the Duke's retirement; and the King has prefented the Prince of Wales with a fervice of plate.

I am still unwell, though I drink these waters very regularly. I will stay here at least six weeks longer, where I am much quieter than I should be allowed to be in town. When things are in such a miserable situation as they are at present, I desire neither to be concerned nor consulted, still less quoted. Adieu!

LETTER CCXCI.

Bath, November the 26th, 1757.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Received, by the last mail, your short account of the King of Prussia's victory; which victory, contrary to custom, turns out more complete than it was at first reported to be. This appears by an intercepted letter from Monsieur de St. Germain to Monsieur d'Affry, at the Hague; in which he tells him, Cette armée est entierement fondue, and lays the blame, very strongly, upon Monsieur de Soubize. But, be it greater, or be it less, I am glad of it; because the King of Prussia (whom I honour and almost

adore) I am fure is. Though d'ailleurs, between you and me, ou est-ce que cela mene? To nothing, while that formidable union, of the three great Powers of Europe, subfifts against him. Could that be any way broken, fomething might be done; without which, nothing can. I take it for granted, that the King of Prussia will do all he can to detach France. Why should not we, on our part, try to detach Russia? At least, in our present distress, omnia tentanda, and fometimes a lucky and unexpected hit turns up. This thought came into my head this morning; and I give it to you, not as a very probable scheme, but as a possible one, and consequently worth trying-The year of the Russian subsidies (nominally paid by the Court of Vienna, but really by France) is near expired. The former probably cannot, and perhaps the latter will not, renew them. The Court of Petersburgh is beggarly, profuse, greedy, and by no means scrupulous. Why should not we step in there, and out-bid them? If we could, we buy a great army at once; which would give an intire new turn to the affairs of that part of the world, at least. And if we bid handsomely, I do not believe the bonne foi of that Court would stand in the way. Both our Court and our Parliament would, I am very fure, give a very great fum, and very cheerfully, for this purpose. In the next place, Why should not you wriggle yourfelf, if possible, into so great a scheme? You are, no doubt, much acquainted with the Russian Resident Soltikow; Why should you not found him, as intirely from yourfelf, upon this fubject?

ject? You may ask him, What, does your Court intend to go on next year in the pay of France, to destroy the liberties of all Europe, and throw univerfal monarchy into the hands of that already great and always ambitious Power? I know you think, or at least call yourselves, the allies of the Empress Queen; but is it not plain that she will be, in the first place, and you in the next, the dupes of France? At this very time you are doing the work of France and Sweden; and that for some miserable subsidies, much inferior to those which I am sure you might have, in a better cause, and more consistent with the true interest of Russia. Though not empowered, I know the manner of thinking of my own Court fo well, upon this subject, that I will venture to promife you much better terms than those you have now, without the least apprehensions of being disavowed. Should he liften to this, and what more may occur to you to fay upon this subject, and ask you, En écrirai-je à ma Cour? answer him, Ecrivez, écrivez Monfieur bardiment. Je prendrai tout cela sur moi. Should this happen, as perhaps, and as I heartily wish it may, then write an exact relation of it to your own Court. Tell them, that you thought the measure of such great importance, that you could not help taking this little step towards bringing it about; but that you mentioned it only as from yourfelf, and that you have not in the least committed them by it. If Soltikow lends himself in any degree to this, infinuate, that, in the present situation of affairs, I 3

affairs, and particularly of the King's Electoral dominions, you are very fure that his Majesty would have une reconnoissance sans bornes for all those, by whose means so desirable a revival of an old and long friendship should be brought about. You will perhaps tell me, that without doubt Mr. Keith's instructions are to the same effect: but I will answer you, that you can, if you please, do it better than Mr. Keith; and, in the next place, that, be all that as it will, it must be very advantageous to you at home, to show that you have at least a contriving head, and an alertness in business.

I had a letter, by the last post, from the Duke of Newcastle; in which he congratulates me, in his own name, and in Lord Hardwicke's, upon the approbation which your dispatches give, not only to them two, but to others. This success, so early, should encourage your diligence, and rouze your ambition, if you have any; you may go a great way, if you desire it, having so much time before you.

I fend you here enclosed the copy of the Report of the three General Officers, appointed to examine previously into the conduct of General M—t; it is ill written, and ill spelled; but no matter; you will decypher it. You will observe, by the tenour of it, that it points strongly to a Court martial; which, no doubt, will soon be held upon him. I presume there will be no shooting in the final sentence; but I do suppose that there will be breaking, &c.

I have had some severe returns of my old complaints, last week, and am still unwell; I cannot help it.

A friend of yours arrived here three days ago; she seems to me to be a serviceable strong-bodied bay mare, with black mane and tail; you easily guess who I mean. She is come with mamma, and without il caro sposo.

Adieu! my head will not let me go on longer.

L E T T E R CCXCII.

Bath, December the 31st, 1757.

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MY DEAR FRIEND.

Have this moment received your letter of the 18th, with the enclosed papers. I cannot help observing, that, till then, you never acknowledged the receipt of any one of my letters.

I can easily conceive that party spirit, among your brother Ministers at Hamburgh, runs as high as you represent it, because I can easily believe the errors of the human mind; but at the same time I must observe, that such a spirit is the spirit of little minds, and subaltern Ministers, who think to atone by zeal, for their want of merit and importance. The political differences of the several Courts should never influence the personal behaviour of their several Ministers towards one another. There is a certain procede noble et galant, which should always be ob-

ferved among the Ministers of Powers even at war with each other, which will always turn out to the advantage of the ableft; who will in those conversations find, or make opportunities of throwing out, or of receiving useful hints. When I was last at the Hague, we were at war with both France and Spain; fo that I could neither visit, nor be visited, by the Ministers of those two Crowns: but we met every day, or dined at third places, where we embraced as personal friends, and trifled, at the same time, upon our being political enemies; and by this fort of badinage, I discovered some things which I wanted to know. There is not a more prudent maxim, than to live with one's enemies as if they may one day become one's friends; as it commonly happens, fooner or later, in the viciffitudes of political affairs.

To your question, which is a rational and prudent one, Whether I was authorized to give you the hints concerning Russia, by any people in power here? I will tell you that I was not: but, as I had pressed them to try what might be done with Russia, and got Mr. Keith to be dispatched thither some months sooner than otherwise, I dare say, he would, with the proper instructions for that purpose, I wished, that by the hints I gave you, you might have got the start of him, and the merit, at least, of having entamé that matter with Soltikow. What you have to do with him now, when you meet with him at any third place, or at his own house (where you are at liberty to go, while Russia has a Minister

in London, and we a Minister at Petersburgh) is, in my opinion, to fay to him, in an easy chearful manner, He bien, Monsieur, je me flatte que nous serons bien-tôt amis publics, aussi bien qu'amis personels. To which he will probably ask, Why, or how? You will reply, Because you know that Mr. Keith is gone to his Court with instructions, which you think must neceffarily be agreeable there. And throw out to him, that nothing but a change of their present system can fave Livonia to Russia; for, that he cannot suppose, that, when the Swedes shall have recovered Pomerania, they will long leave Ruffia in quiet poffession of Livonia. If he is so much a Frenchman as you fay, he will make some weak answers to this; but as you will have the better of the argument on your fide, you may remind him of the old and almost uninterrupted connection between France and Sweden, the inveterate enemy of Russia. Many other arguments will naturally occur to you in fuch a conversation, if you have it. In this case, there is a piece of ministerial art, which is sometimes of use; and that is, to fow jealousies among one's enemies, by a feeming preference shown to some one of them. Monsieur Hecht's réveries are réveries indeed. How should his master have made the golden arrangements, which he talks of, and which are to be forged into shackles for General Fermor? The Prussian finances are not in a condition now to make fuch expensive arrangements. But I think you may tell Monsieur Hecht, in confidence, that you hope the instructions with which you know that Mr. Keith is gone to Petersburgh,

tersburgh, may have some effect upon the measures of that Court.

I would advise you to live with that same Monsieur Hecht, in all the confidence, familiarity, and connection, which prudence will allow. I mean it with regard to the King of Prussia himself, by whom I could wish you to be known and esteemed as much as possible. It may be of use to you some day or other. If man, courage, conduct, constancy, can get the better of all the difficulties which the King of Prussia has to struggle with, he will rife superior to them. But still, while this alliance subsists against him, I dread les gros Escadrons. His last victory, of the 5th, was certainly the compleatest that has been heard of these many years. I heartily wish the Prince of Brunswick just such a one over Monsieur de Richelieu's army; and that he may take my old acquaintance the Maréchal, and fend him over here to polish and perfume us.

I heartily wish you, in the plain home-spun style, a great number of happy new years, well employed in forming both your mind and your manners, to be useful and agreeable to yourself, your country, and your friends! That these wishes are sincere, your Secretary's brother will, by the time of your receiving this, have remitted you a proof, from Yours.

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LETTER CCXCIII.

London, February the 8th, 1758.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Received by the same post your two letters of the 13th and 17th past; and yesterday that of the 27th, with the Russian manifesto enclosed; in which her Imperial Majesty of all the Russias has been pleafed to give every reason, except the true one, for the march of her troops against the King of Prussia. The true one, I take to be, that she has just received a very great sum of money from France, or the Empress Queen, or both, for that purpose, Point d'argent point de Russe is now become a maxim, Whatever may be the motive of their march, the effects must be bad; and according to my speculations, those troops will replace the French, in Hanover and Lower Saxony; and the French will go and join the Austrian army. You ask me, If I still despond? Not so much as I did after the battle of Colen: the battles of Rosbach and Lissa were drams to me, and gave me some momentary spirits; but though I do not absolutely despair, I own I greatly distrust. I readily allow the King of Prussia to be nec pluribus impar; but still, when the plures amount to a certain degree of plurality, courage and abilities must yield at last. Michel here assures me, that he does not mind the Russians; but as I have it from the gentleman's own mouth, I do not believe him. We shall very soon send a fquadron

fquadron to the Baltic, to entertain the Swedes; which I believe will put an end to their operations in Pomerania; fo that I have no great apprehensions from that quarter; but Russia, I confess, sticks in my stomach.

Every thing goes fmoothly in Parliament; the King of Prussia has united all our parties in his support; and the Tories have declared, that they will give Mr. Pitt unlimited credit for this fession: there has not been one fingle division yet upon public points, and I believe will not. Our American expedition is preparing to go foon; the disposition of that affair feems to me a little extraordinary. Abercrombie is to be the fedentary, and not the acting Commander; Amherst, Lord Howe, and Wolfe, are to be the acting, and I hope the active Officers. I wish they may agree. Amherst, who is the oldest Officer, is under the influence of the same great person who influenced Mordaunt, so much to the honour and advantage of this country. This is most certain, that we have force enough in America to eat up the French alive in Canada, Quebec, and Louisbourg, if we have but skill and spirit enough to exert it properly; but of that I am modest enough to doubt.

When you come to the egotism, which I have long desired you to come to with me, you need make no excuses for it. The egotism is as proper and as satisfactory, to one's friends, as it is impertinent and misplaced with strangers. I desire to see you in your every-day clothes, by your fire-side, in

your pleasures; in short, in your private life; but I have not yet been able to obtain this. Whenever you condescend to do it, as you promise, stick to truth; for I am not so uninformed of Hamburgh, as perhaps you may think.

As for myself, I am very unwell, and very weary of being so; and with little hopes, at my age, of ever being otherwise. I often wish for the end of the wretched remnant of my life; and that wish is a rational one; but then the innate principle of self-preservation, wisely implanted in our natures, for obvious purposes, opposes that wish, and makes us endeavour to spin out our thread as long as we can, however decayed and rotten it may be; and in defiance of common-sense, we seek on for that chymic gold, which beggars us when old.

Whatever your amufements, or pleasures, may be at Hamburgh, I dare fay you tafte them more fensibly than ever you did in your life, now that you have business enough to whet your appetite to them. Business, one half of the day, is the best preparation for the pleasures of the other half. I hope, and believe, that it will be with you as it was with an apothecary whom I knew at Twickenham, A confiderable estate fell to him by an unexpected accident; upon which he thought it decent to leave off his business; accordingly he generously gave up his shop and his stock to his head man, fet up his coach, and refolved to live like a gentleman; but in less than a month, the man, used to business, found, that living like a gentleman was dying of ennui: upon which

which he bought his shop and stock, resumed his trade; and lived very happily, after he had something to do. Adieu.

LETTER CCXCIV.

London, February the 24th, 1758.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Received yesterday your letter of the 2d instant, with the enclosed; which I return you, that there may be no chasm in your papers. I had heard before of Burrish's death, and had taken some steps thereupon; but I very foon dropped that affair, for ninety-nine good reasons; the first of which was, that nobody is to go in his room, and that, had he lived, he was to have been recalled from Munich. But another reason, more flattering for you, was, that you could not be spared from Hamburgh. Upon the whole, I am not forry for it, as the place where you are now is the great entrepôt of business; and when it ceases to be so, you will necessarily go to fome of the Courts in the neighbourhood, (Berlin, I hope and believe) which will be a much more defirable fituation than to ruft at Munich, where we can never have any business beyond a subsidy. Do but go on, and exert yourfelf where you are, and better things will foon follow.

Surely the inaction of our army at Hanover continues too long. We expected wonders from it some time

time ago, and yet nothing is attempted. The French will foon receive reinforcements, and then be too strong for us; whereas they are now most certainly greatly weakened by defertion, fickness, and deaths. Does the King of Prussia send a body of men to our army or not? or has the march of the Ruffians cut him out work for all his troops? I am afraid it has. If one body of Ruffians joins the Austrian army in Moravia, and another body the Swedes in Pomerania, he will have his hands very full, too full, I fear. The French fay, they will have an army of 180,000 men in Germany this year; the Empress Queen will have 150,000; if the Russians have but 40,000, what can refift such a force? The King of Pruffia may fay, indeed, with more justice than ever any one person could before him, Moi. Medea superest.

You promifed me some egotism; but I have received none yet. Do you frequent the Landgrave? Hantez vous les grands de la terre? What are the connections of the evening? All this, and a great deal more of this kind, let me know in your next.

The House of Commons is still very unanimous: there was a little popular fquib let off this week, in a motion of Sir John Glynne's, feconded by Sir John Philips, for annual Parliaments. It was a very cold fcent, and put an end to by a division of 190 to 70.

Good night. Work hard, that you may divert yourfelf well.

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London, March the 4th, 1758.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I Should have been much more furprised at the contents of your letter of the 17th past, if I had not happened to have feen Sir C. W. about three or four hours before I received it. I thought he talked in an extraordinary manner; he engaged that the King of Prussia should be master of Vienna in the month of May; and he told me, that you were very much in love with his daughter. Your letter explained all this to me; and next day, Lord and Lady E-gave me innumerable instances of his frenzy, with which I shall not trouble you. What inflamed it the more (if it did not intirely occasion it) was a great quantity of cantharides, which, it feems, he had taken at Hamburgh, to recommend himself, I suppose, to Mademoiselle John. He was let blood four times on board the ship, and has been let blood four times more fince his arrival here; but still the inflammation continues very high. He is now under the care of his brothers, who do not let him go abroad. They have written to this fame Mademoiselle John, to prevent, if they can, her coming to England, and told her the cafe; which when the hears, the must be as mad as he is, if the takes the journey. By the way, she must be une Dame aventuriere, to receive a note for 10,000 roubles, from a man whom fhe had known but three days; to VI stake THE W

take a contract of marriage, knowing he was married already, and to engage herself to follow him to England. I suppose this is not the first adventure of the fort which she has had.

After the news we received yesterday, that the French had evacuated Hanover, all but Hamel, we daily expect much better. We pursue them, we cut them off en détail, and at last we destroy their whole army. I wish it may happen, and, moreover, I think it not impossible.

My head is much out of order, and only allows me to wish you good night.

thairt. Dhiomaille bhiomainteacht is an volumed gend <u>Caid a dua tha a caid (Ceda a 164 trail a an is ann 15 mail</u>) -iis an a sannamhlaithte an ann channa an 164 ann an

LETTER CCXCVI.

London, March the 22d, 1758.

I have now your letter of the 8th lying before inc, with the favourable account of our progress in Lower Saxony, and reasonable prospect of more decisive success. I confess I did not expect this, when my friend Münchausen took his leave of me, to go to Stade, and break the neutrality; I thought it at least a dangerous, but rather a desperate undertaking; whereas, hitherto, it has proved a very fortunate one. I look upon the French army as fondue; and, what with desertion, deaths, and epidemical distempers, I dare say not a third of it will ever return to France. The great object is now, Vol. IV.

what the Russians can or will do; and whether the King of Prussia can hinder their junction with the Austrians, by beating either, before they join: I will trust him for doing all that can be done.

Sir C. W. is still in confinement, and, I fear, will always be for he feems cum ratione infamire: the physicians have collected all the has faid and done, that indicated an alienation of mind, and have laid it before him in writing ; he has answered it in writing too, and justifies himself by the most plaufible arguments that can possibly be urged. He tells his brother, and the few who are allowed to fee him, that they are fuch narrow and contracted minds themselves, that they take those for mad, who have a great and generous way of thinking; as for infrance, when he determined to fend his daughter over to you in a fortnight, to be married without any previous agreement or fettlements, it was because he had long known you, and loved you, as a man of sense and honour; and therefore would not treat with you as with an attorney. That as for Mademoiselle John, he knew her merit and her circumstances; and asks, whether it is a sign of madness, to have a due regard for the one, and a just compassion for the other. I will not tire you with enumerating any more inftances of the poor man's frenzy; but conclude this subject with pitying him, and poor human nature, which holds its reason by so precarious a tenure. The lady, who you tell me is set out, en sera pour la peine et les fraix du voyage, for her note is worth no more than her contract. LETTER

By the way, she must be a kind of aventuriere, to engage so easily in such an adventure, with a man whom she had not known above a week, and whose début of 10,000 roubles showed him not to be in his right senses.

You will probably have feen General Yorke, by this time, in his way to Berlin or Breslau, or whereever the King of Pruffia may be As he keeps his commission to the States General, I presume he is not to flay long with his Pruffian Majefty : but, however, while he is there, take care to write to him very constantly, and to give all the informations you can His father, Lord Hardwicke, is your great puff; he commends your office letters exceedingly; I would have the Berlin Commission your object, in good time : never lose view of it. Do all you can to recommend yourfelf to the King of Pruffia, on your fide of the water, and to smooth your way for that commission on this; by the turn which things have taken of late, it must always be the most important of all foreign commissions from hence as you drive

era spad pgnidical, voy brokuot swent on swad In tances; and aske, widgin boog of spinp ylamentas to have a due regard for the one, and a just compassion for the other. I will not the you with enumerating any more instances of the poor man's frenzy, but conclude this subject with projing him, and poor human nature, which holds its reason by so precanous a tenure. The lady, who you tell me is fit out, en for poor la peine et as fray du word; is fit out, en for poor la peine et as fray du word; is fit out, en for poor la peine et as fray du word; is fit her note is worth no more than her contract;

and I E T T E R CCXCVII.

Vi have to hine to rell you from hence, concern

andillimited avoid sanday London, April the 25th, 1758.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Am now two letters in your debt, which I think is the first time that ever I was so, in the long course of our correspondence. But, besides that my head has been very much out of order of late, writing is by no means that easy thing that it was to me formerly. I find by experience, that the mind and the body are more than married, for they are most intimately united; and when the one suffers, the other sympathises. Non sum qualis eram: Neither my memory nor my invention are now, what they formerly were. It is in a great measure my own fault: I cannot accuse nature, for I abused her; and it is reasonable I should suffer for it.

I do not like the return of the oppression upon your lungs; but the rigor of the cold may probably have brought it upon you, and your lungs not in fault. Take care to live very cool, and let your diet be rather low.

We have had a fecond winter here, more fevere than the first, at least it seemed so, from a premature summer that we had, for a fortnight, in March; which brought every thing forwards, only to be destroyed. I have experienced it at Blackheath; where the promise of fruit was a most flattering one, and all nipped in the bud by frost and snow, in April.

I shall not have a single peach or apricot.

I have

I have nothing to tell you from hence, concerning public affairs, but what you read as well in the news-papers. This only is extraordinary: that last week, in the House of Commons, above ten millions were granted, and the whole Hanover army taken into British pay, with but one single negative, which was Mr. Viner's aw I rave and omit flad and vol

Mr. Pitt gains ground in the closet, and yet does not lose it in the public. That is newed and hand

Monsieur Kniphausen has dined with me; he is one of the prettiest fellows I have feen; he has, with a great deal of life and fire, les manieres d'un bonnête bomme, et le ton de la parfaitement bonne compagnie. You like him yourfelf; try to be like him: it is in memory nor my invention are now, wirswor nov-

I hear that Mr. Mitchel is to be recalled, notwithstanding the King of Prussia's instances to keep him. But why, is a fecret that I cannot penetrate.

You will not fail to offer the Landgrave, and the Princess of Hesse (who I find are going home) to be their agent and commissioner at Hamburgh.

Jol cannot comprehend the present state of Russia, nor the motions of their armies. They change their Generals once a week; fometimes they march with rapidity, and now they lie quiet behind the Vistula. We have a thousand stories here of the interior of that government, none of which I believe. Some fay, that the Great Duke will be fet aside. Woronzoff is faid to be intirely a Frenchman, and that Monfieur de l'Hôpital governs both him and the Court. Sir C. W. is faid, by his indifcretions, to K 3 east don't have

have caused the disgrace of Bestuches, which seems not impossible. In short, every thing of every kind is said, because, I believe, very little is truly known. A propos of Sir C. W., he is out of confinement, and gone to his house in the country for the whole summer. They say he is now very cool and well. I have seen his Circe, at her window in Pall-mall; she is painted, powdered, curled, and patched, and looks Paventure. She has been offered, by Sir C. W—'s friends, 500l, in full of all demands, but will not accept of it. La contesse veut plaider, and I fancy faire autre obose si elle peut. Jubeo te bene valere.

I have told Ale in the throngest manner, your lame. IIIV2X22 e lo R of E l Toute Tr (E field t it en

of that A downow, there's you will, olim bac

Blackheath, May the 18th, 1758,

rect as to racks and clates!

Have your letter of the 9th now before me, and condole with you upon the present solitude and inaction of Hamburgh. You are now shrunk from the dignity and importance of a consummate Minister, to be but, as it were, a common man. But this has, at one time or another, been the case of most great men; who have not always had equal opportunities of exerting their talents. The greatest must submit to the capidiousness of fortune; though they can, better than others, improve the favourable moments. For instance, who could have thought,

thought, two years ago, that you would have been the Atlas of the Northern Pole? but the good Genius of the North ordered it fo; and now that you have fet that part of the globe right, you return to otium cum dignitates But to be ferious; now that you cannot have much office business to do, I could tell you what to do, that would employ you, I should think, both wefully and agreeably. I mean, that you should write short memoirs of that busy scene, in which you have been enough concerned, fince your arrival at Hamburgh, to be able to put together authentic facts and anecdotes. I do not know whether you will give yourself the trouble to do it or not; but I do know, that, if you will, olim bec meminisse juvabit. I would have them short, but correct as to facts and dates.

I have told Alt, in the strongest manner, your lamentations for the loss of the House of Cassel, et il en fera rapport à son Sérénissime Maître. When you are quite idle, (as probably you may be, some time this summer) why should you not ask leave to make a tour to Cassel for a week? which would certainly be granted you from hence, and which would be looked upon as a ban procédé, at Cassel.

The King of Prussia is probably, by this time, at the gates of Vienna, making the Queen of Hungary really do, what Monsieur de Bellisse only threatened; sign a peace upon the ramparts of her capital. If she is obstinate, and will not, she must sly either to Presburgh or to Inspruck, and Vienna must fall. But I think he will offer her reasonable condi-

conditions enough for herfelf, and I suppose, that, in that case, Caunitz will be reasonable enough to advise her to accept of them. What turn would the war take then? Would the French and Russians carry it on without her? the King of Pruffia, and the Prince of Brunswick, would soon sweep them out of Germany. By this time too, I believe, the French are entertained in America, with the loss of Cape Breton; and, in consequence of that, Quebec; for we have a force there equal to both those undertakings, and Officers there, now, that will execute, what Lord L-never would fo much as attempt. His appointments were too considerable to let him do any thing that might possibly put an end to the war. Lord Howe, upon feeing plainly that he was resolved to do nothing, had asked leave to return, as well as Lord Charles Hay.

We have a great expedition preparing, and which will foon be ready to fail from the Isle of Wight; fifteen thousand good troops, eighty battering cannons, besides mortars, and every other thing in abundance, fit for either battle or siege. Lord Anson desired, and is appointed, to command the sleet employed upon this expedition; a proof that it is not a trisling one. Conjectures concerning its destination are infinite; and the most ignorant are, as usual, the boldest conjecturers. If I form any conjectures, I keep them to myself, not to be disproved by the event, but, in truth, I form none: I might have known, but would not.

Every thing feems to tend to a peace next winter:

our success in America, which is hardly doubtful. and the King of Pruffia's in Germany, which is as little fo, will make France (already fick of the expence of the war) very tractable for a peace. I heartily wish it? for, though people's heads are half turned with the King of Pruffia's fuccess, and will be quite turned, if we have any in America, or at sea; a moderate peace will suit us better than this immoderate war of twelve millions a year.

Domestic affairs go just as they did; the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Pitt jog on like man and wife; that is, feldom agreeing, often quarrelling; but by mutual interest, upon the whole, not parting. The latter, I am told, gains ground in the closer; though he still keeps his strength in the House, and his popularity in the public: or, perhaps, because of that.

Do you hold your resolution of visiting your dominions of Bremen and Lubeck this fummer? If you do, pray take the trouble of informing yourself correctly of the feveral constitutions and customs of those places, and of the present state of the feederal union of the Hanseatic towns: it will do you no harm, nor cost you much trouble; and it is fo much clear gain on the fide of uleful knowledge sit are are many

I am now fettled at Blackheath for the fummer; where unleasonable frost and snow, and hot and parehing east-winds, have destroyed all my fruit, and almost my fruit-trees, a I vegetate myself little

better than they does I crawl about on foot, and on horseback; read a great deal, and write a little; and am very much yoursess to will be be the deal of the control of th

carty; with of fone very great flrake from that

ods midny bebrieb ad Blackheath, May the 30th, 1758,

time inter of time, we flat carried and AM he

Have no letter from you to answer, so this goes to you unprovoked. But a propos of letters; you have had great honour done you, in a letter from a fair and Royal hand, no less than that of her Royal Highness the Princess of Cassely she has written your panegyric to her fifter, Princess Amelia, who fent me a compliment upon it. This has likewife done you no harm with the King, who faid gracious things upon that occasion. I suppose you had, for her Royal Highness, those attentions, which I wish to God you would have, in due proportions, for every body. You see, by this instance, the effects of them; they are always repaid with interest. I am more confirmed by this in thinking, that, if you can conveniently, you should ask leave to go for a week to Caffel, to return your thanks for all favours received to hamper district in the archaet as fisher

Russians. There must be a trick in their not marching with more expedition. They have either had a sop

fop from the King of Pruffia, or they want an unimating dram from France and Austria. The King of Pruffia's conduct always explains itself by the events; and, within a very few days, we must certainly hear of some very great stroke from that quarter. I think I never in my life remember a period of time fo big with great events as the prefent. Within two months, the fate of the House of Austria will probably be decided: within the fame space of time, we shall certainly hear of the taking of Cape Breton, and of our army's proceeding to Quebec: within a few days, we shall know the good or ill fuccess of our great expedition; for it is failed: and it cannot be long before we shall hear something of the Prince of Brunswick's operations, from whom I also expect good things. If all these things turn out, as there is good reason to believe they will, we may once, in our turn, dictate a reasonable peace to France, who now pays feventy per cent. infurance upon its trade, and feven per cent, for all the money raised for the service of the year, but the method with you nor

Comte Bothmar has got the finall-pox, and of a bad kind. Kniphausen diverts himself much here; he fees all places and all people, and is ubiquity itself. Mitchel, who was much threatened, stays at last at Berlin, at the earnest request of the King of Prussia. Lady * * * is fafely delivered of a fon, to the great joy of that noble family. The expression, of a woman's having brought her huf-

band

band a fon, feems to be a proper and cautious one; for it is never faid, from whence.

I was going to ask you how you passed your time now at Hamburgh, since it is no longer the seat of strangers and of business; but I will not, because I know it is to no purpose. You have fworm not to tell me.

Sir William Stanhope told me, that you promised to send him some Old Hock from Hamburgh, and so you did—not. If you meet with any superlatively good, and not else, pray send over a foudre of it, and write to him. I shall have a share in it. But unless you find some, either at Hamburgh or at Bremen, uncommonly and almost miraculously good, do not send any. Dixi.

Yours.

Capra 3333 R . 3 Ance ferrigh Afa to our fatistactions to that their parts of the World look

inglot Garat Bretone and of all the fores with hard

rames in North America so France in the

and or timbul I square Blackheath, June the 13th, 1758.

HE fecret is out; St. Malo is the devoted place. Our troops began to land at the Bay of Cancale the 5th, without any opposition. We have no farther accounts yet, but expect some every moment. By the plan of it, which I have seen, it is by no means a weak place; and I fear there will be many hats to be disposed of, before it is taken.

There

There are in the port above thirty privateers; about fixteen of their own, and about as many taken from

Now for Africa, where we have had great fuccess. The French have been driven out of all their forts and fettlements upon the Gum-coast, and upon They had been many years in the river Senegal. possession of them, and by them annoyed our African trade exceedingly; which, by the way, toute proportion gardée, is the most lucrative trade we have. The present booty is likewise very considerable, in gold dust, and gum seneca; which is a very valuable, by being a very necessary commodity for all our stained and printed linens.

Now for America. The least fanguine people here expect, the latter end of this month or the beginning of the next, to have the account of the taking of Cape Breton, and of all the forts with hard names in North America.

Captain Clive has long fince fettled Afia to our fatisfaction; fo that three parts of the world look very favourable for us. Europe, I submit to the care of the King of Prussia, and Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick; and I think they will give a good account of it. France is out of luck, and out of courage; and will, I hope, be enough out of spirits to submit to a reasonable peace. By reasonable I mean what all people call reasonable in their own case; is by no means a weak surfor on volume on volume an

I have fet all right with Münchausen who 光龍な 丁男 ほしか

would not own that he was at all offended, and faid, as you do, that his daughter did not flay long enough, nor appear enough at Hamburgh, for you possibly to know that she was there. But people are always ashamed to own the little weaknesses of selflove, which, however, all people feel more or lefs. The excuse, I saw, pleased.

I will fend you your quadrille-tables by the first opportunity, configned to the care of Mr. Mathias here. Felices, faustaque sint. May you win upon them, when you play with men; and when you play with women, either win, or know why vou lose. out, level of nor know what contrated to

Miss - marries Mr. -, next week. Who proffers Love, proffers Death, fays Waller to a dwarf: in my opinion, the conclusion must instantly choak the little Lady. Admiral * marries Lady * * *; there the danger, if danger is, will be on the other fide. The Lady has wanted a man fo long, that the now compounds for half a one. Half a loaf

I have been worse since my last letter; but am now, I think, recovering; tant va la cruche à l'eau; and I have been there very often.

Good night. I am faithfully and truly yours.

other at latinburgh, not or vare to her kloval High of neis, with a respectful compliment from you owhich ou will, no doubt, turn in mechalism muregand.

don so how rou do da parts derentrodime conjusa gran a de; A on have abready feen an the papers, all the parti-

man of variest adalo's expedition von lawlor rowler ABTTBU that Mr. 19tt's friend exult inward

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faids as you do that his then the had be long enough, that appear enough at Hamburger care exou-

would need own that Planskall its abf often lend and

Blackheath, June the 27th, 1758

MY DEAR FRIENDS and any ou bements

TO U wither have received already, or will very L foon receive, a little case from Amsterdam, directed to you at Hamburgh. It is for Princess Amelia, the King of Pruma's lifter, and contains fome books, which the defired Sir Charles Hotham to procuse her from England, to long ago as when he was at Berlin . he fent for them immediately; but, by I do not know what puzzle, they were recommended to the care of Mr. Selwyn, at Paris, who took fuch care of them, that he kept them near three years in his warehouse, and has ar last some them to Amsterdam, from whence they are fent to you. If the books are good for any thing, they must be confiderably improved, by having feen to much of the world; but, as I believe they are English books, perhaps they may, like English travellers, have seen nobody, but the feveral bankers to whom they were configned; be that as it will, I think you had best deliver them to Monfieur Hecht, the Pruffian Minister at Hamburgh, to forward to her Royal Highness, with a respectful compliment from you, which you will, no doubt, turn in the best manner; and, selon le bon ton de la parfaitement bonne compagnie.

You have already feen, in the papers, all the particulars of our St. Malo's expedition, fo I fay no more of that; only that Mr. Pitt's friends exult in the destruction

destruction of three French ships of war, and one hundred and thirty privateers and trading ships; and affirm, that it stopped the march of threescore thoufand men, who were going to join the Comte de Clermont's army. On the other hand, Mr. Fox and Company call it breaking windows with guineas; and apply the fable of the Mountain and the Moufe. The next object of our fleet was to be the bombarding of Granville, which is the great entrepat of their Newfoundland fishery, and will be a confiderable loss to them in that branch of their trade. These, you will perhaps fay, are no great matters, and I fay fo too; but, at least, they are figns of life, which we had not given for many years before; and will show the French, by our invading them, that we do not fear their invading us. Were those invasions, in fishing-boats from Dunkirk, so terrible as they were artfully represented to be, the French would have had an opportunity of executing them, while our fleet, and fuch a confiderable part of our army, were employed upon their coast. But my Lord Ligonier does not want an army at home. beeche 'be

The Parliament is prorogued by a most gracious speech neither by nor from his Majesty, who was too ill to go to the House; the Lords and Gentlemen are, consequently, most of them, gone to their several counties, to do (to be sure) all the good that is recommended to them in the speech. London, I am told, is now very empty, for I cannot say so from knowledge. I vegetate wholly here. I walk and read a great deal, ride and scribble a little, according

IL HOUSE MISS

as my head allows, or my fpirits prompt; to write any thing tolerable, the mind must be in a natural, proper disposition; provocatives, in that case, as well as in another, will only produce miserable, abortive performances.

Now you have (as I suppose) full leifure enough, I wish you would give yourself the trouble, or rather the pleasure, to do what I hinted to you some time ago; that is, to write short memoirs of those affairs which have either gone through your hands, or that have come to your certain knowledge, from the inglorious battle of Hastenbeck, to the still more fcandalous Treaty of Neutrality. Connect, at feaft, if it be by ever fo short notes, the pieces and letters which you must necessarily have in your hands, and throw in the authentic anecdotes that you have probably heard. You will be glad when you have done it; and the reviving past ideas in some order and method, will be an infinite comfort to you hereafter. I have a thousand times regretted not having done fo; it is at present too late for me to begin: this is the right time for you, and your life is likely to be a bufy one. Would young men avail themselves of the advice and experience of their old friends, they would find the utility in their youth, and the comfort of it in their more advanced age; but they feldom confider that, and you, less than any body I ever knew. May you foon grow wifer! Adieu. SHAMP 1821 MAN FAR

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the first of United well over, and a victory and a victory . R. E. H. E.

flum to bluob of no Blackheath, June the 30th, 1758.

we mean agood peace at the en, Drainy ARAD YM

THIS letter follows my last very close; but I received yours of the 15th in the short interval. You did very well not to buy any Rhenish, at the exorbitant price you mention, without farther directions; for both my brother and I think the money better than the wine, be the wine ever so good. We will content ourselves with our stock in hand of humble Rhenish, of about three shillings a bottle. However, pour la rareté du fait, I will lay out twelve ducats, for twelve bottles of the wine of 1665, by way of an eventual crodial, if you can obtain a senatus consultum for it. I am in no hurry for it, so send it me only when you can conveniently; well packed up s'entend.

You will, I dare fay, have leave to go to Cassel; and if you do go, you will perhaps think it reasonable, that I, who was the adviser of the journey, should pay the expence of it. I think so too, and therefore, if you go, I will remit the 1001, which you have calculated it at. You will find the House of Cassel the house of gladness; for Hanau is already, or must be soon, delivered of its French guests.

The Prince of Brunswick's victory is, by all the skilful, thought a chef d'œuvre, worthy of Turenne, Condé, or the most illustrious human butchers. The French behaved better than at Rosbach, especially the Carabiniers Rosaux, who could not be entamés. I

wifh

I

wish the siege of Olmutz well over, and a victory after it; and that, with good news from America, which I think there is no reason to doubt of, must procure us a good peace at the end of the year. The Prince of Prussia's death is no public misfortune there was a jealoufy and alienation between the King and him, which could never have been made up be-y tween the possession of the crown and the next heir to it. He will make something of his nephew, s'il est du bois dont on en fait. He is young enough to forgive, and to be forgiven the possession and the expectative, at least for some years. a situal in aldown

Adieu! I am unwell, but affectionately yours.

ducard, for their en array lither wind of and a up

considered the state of the surry article of the it Ly E. TimTne Eoo Ro an CCCIII. valo em

Blackheath, July the 18th, 1758.

MY DEAR FRIEND, Start and List I dery if

TESTERDAY I received your letter of the 4th, and my last will have informed you that I had received your former, concerning the Rhenish, about which I gave you instructions. If vinum Mofellanum est omni tempore sanum, as the Chapter of Treves afferts, what must this vinum Rhenanum be, from its fuperior strength and age? It must be the universal panacea. The salividing to some the self-

Captain Howe is to fail forthwith somewhere or another, with about 8000 land forces on board him; and what is much more, Edward the White Prince. It is yet a fecret where they are going, but I think

it is no fecret, that what 16,000 men and a great fleet could not do, will not be done by 8000 men, and a much smaller fleet. About 8500 horse, foot, and dragoons, are embarking, as fast as they can, for Embden, to reinforce Prince Ferdinand's army: late, and few, to be sure, but still better than never, and none. The operations in Moravia go on slowly, and Olmutz seems to be a tough piece of work: I own I begin to be in pain for the King of Prussia; for the Russians now march in earnest, and Maréchal Daun's army is certainly superior in number to his. God send him a good delivery!

You have a Danish army now in your neighbour-hood, and they say a very fine one; I presume you will go to see it, and, if you do, I would advise you to go when the Danish Monarch comes to review it himself; pour prendre Langue de ce Seigneur. The Rulers of the earth are all worth knowing; they suggest moral restections: and the respect that one naturally has for God's Vicegerents here on earth, is greatly increased by acquaintance with them.

Your card-tables are gone, and they enclose some suits of clothes, and some of these clothes enclose a letter.

Your friend Lady ** is gone into the country with her Lord, to negotiate, cooly and at leifure, their intended feparation. My Lady infifts upon my Lord's difiniffing the **, as ruinous to his fortune; my Lord infifts, in his turn, upon my Lady's difiniffing Lord **; my Lady replies, that that is unreasonable, fince Lord ** creates no expence to the family,

but rather the contrary. My Lord confesses, that there is some weight in this argument; but then pleads fentiment: my Lady fays, A fiddleftick for fentiment, after having been married fo long. How this matter will end, is in the womb of time, nam fuit ante Helenam. Inflored topiel bel on west sail tomil

You did very well to write a congratulatory letter to Prince Ferdinand; fuch attentions are always right, and always repaid in fome way or other.

I am glad you have connected your negotiations and anecdotes; and I hope, not with your usual laconism. Adieu! Yours.

LETTER CCCIV. mole present and agence

Tou have a Datath acception in your neighbour Door John All Mary the Many and Sunday to the later and

Blackheath, August the 18, 1758.

ind a

t

MY DEAR FRIEND. Think the Court of Cassel is more likely to make you a fecond visit at Hamburgh, than you are to return theirs at Cassel; and therefore, till that matter is clearer, I shall not mention it to Lord Holdernesse, a product boundle or aculotal bland

By the King of Pruffia's disappointment in Moravia, by the approach of the Russians, and the intended march of Monsieur de Soubize to Hanover, the waters feem to me to be as much troubled as ever. Je vois très noir actuellement, I see swarms of Austrians, French, Imperialists, Swedes, and Ruffians, in all near four hundred thousand men, furrounding the King of Prussia and Prince Ferdinand,

who have about a third of that number. Hitherto .
they have only buzzed, but now I fear they will

fling.

The immediate danger of this country is being drowned; for it has not ceased raining these three months, and withal is extremely cold. This neither agrees with me in itself, nor in its consequences; for it hinders me from taking my necessary exercise, and makes me very unwell. As my head is always the part offending, and is so at present, I will not do like many writers, write without a head; so adieu.

L E T T E R CCCV.

Blackheath, August the 29th, 1758.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

YOUR Secretary's last letter brought me the good news, that the fever had left you, and I will believe that it has; but a postscript to it, of only two lines, under your own hand, would have convinced me more effectually of your recovery. An intermitting fever, in the intervals of the paroxysms, would surely have allowed you to have written a very few lines with your own hand, to tell me how you were; and till I receive a letter (as short as you please) from yourself, I shall doubt of the exact truth of any other accounts.

I send you no news, because I have none; Cape Breton, Cherbourg, &c. are now old stories; we expect a new one soon from Commodore Howe, but from whence we know not. From Germany we

hope

hope for good news; I confess I do not, I only wish it. The King of Pruffia is marched to fight the Ruffians, and I believe will bear them, if they fland; but what then? What shall he do next, with the three hundred and fourfcore thousand men, now actually at work upon him? He will do all that man can do, but at last il faut succomber.

Remember to think yourself less well than you are, in order to be quite fo: be very regular rather longer than you need; and then there will be no danger of a relapse. God bless you!

L E T T E R CCCVI.

Blackheath, September the 5th, 1758.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Received, with great pleasure, your letter of the 22d August; for, by not having a line from you in your Secretary's two letters, I suspected that you were worse than he cared to tell me: and so far I was in the right, that your fever was more malignant than intermitting ones generally are; which feldom confine people to their bed, or at most only the days of the paroxysms. Now, thank God, you are well again, though weak; do not be in too much haste to be better and stronger: leave that to nature, which, at your age, will restore both your health and ftrength as foon as fhe should. Live cool for a time, and rather low, instead of taking what they call heartening things. tuoYom, whence we

Your manner of making presents is noble, et sent la grandeur d'ame d'un preux Chevalier. You depreciate their value, to prevent any returns; for it is impossible that a wine which has counted so many Sindicks, that can only be delivered by a senatus consultum, and is the panacea of the North, should be sold for a ducat a bottle. The sylphium of the Romans, which was stored up in the public magazines, and only distributed by order of the magisfirate, I dare say, cost more; so that, I am convinced, your present is much more valuable than you would make it.

Here I am interrupted, by receiving your letter of the 25th past. I am glad that you are able to undertake your journey to Bremen; the motion, the air, the new scene, the every thing, will do you good, provided you manage yourself discreetly.

Your bill for fifty pounds shall certainly be accepted and paid; but as in conscience I think fifty pounds is too little, for seeing a live Landgrave, and especially at Bremen, which this whole nation knows to be a very dear place, I shall, with your leave, add sifty more to it. By the way, when you see the Princess Royal of Cassel, be sure to tell her how sensible you are of the favourable and too partial testimony, which you know she wrote of you to Princess Amelia.

The King of Prussia has had the victory, which you, in some measure, foretold; and as he has taken la Caisse Militaire, I presume Messieurs les Russes sont bors

spunod

bors de combat pour cette campagne; for point d'argent, point de Suisse, is not truer of the laudable Helvetic body, than point d'argent, point de Russe, is of the favages of the Two Ruffias, not even excepting the Autocratrice of them both. Serbelloni, I believe, stands next in his Prussian Majesty's list to be beaten; that is, if he will stand; as the Prince de Soubize does in Prince Ferdinand's, upon the fame condition. If both these things happen, which is by no means improbable, we may hope for a tolerable peace this winter; for, au bout du compte, the King of Prussia cannot hold out another year; and therefore he should make the best of these favourable events, by way of negotiation.

I think I have written a great deal, with an actual giddiness of head upon me. So adieu.

I am glad you have received my letter of the Ides of July.

and past, but is in concluded, think fifty

Blackheath, September the 8th, 1758. MY DEAR FRIEND,

HIS letter shall be short, being only an explanatory note upon my last; for I am not learned enough, nor yet dull enough, to make my comment much longer than my text. I told you then, in my former letter, that with your leave; (which I will suppose granted) I would add fifty pounds 3 10 8

fhould mifunderstand this, and wait for the remittance of that additional fifty from hence, know my meaning was, that you should likewife draw upon me for it when you please; which, I prefume, will be more convenient to you.

Let the pedants, whose business it is to believe lies, or the poets, whose trade it is to invent them, match the King of Prusia with a hero, in ancient or modern story, if they can. He disgraces history, and makes one give some credit to romandes. Calprenede's Juba does not now seem so absurd as formerly.

I have been extremely ill this whole summer; but am now something better: however, I perceive, que l'esprit et le corps baissent; the former is the last thing that any body will tell me, or own when I tell it them; but I know it is true, Adieu.

Is hit vacable to the desired at the case that there are given on the form

nor? Kniphausen does not relift at in the least, and

Blackheath, September the 22d, 1758,

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I Have received no letter from you, fince you left
Hamburgh; I prefume that you are perfectly
recovered, but it might not have been improper to
have told me for I am very far from being recovered; on the contrary, I am worfe and worfe, weaker
and weaker every day; for which reason I shall leave
this

this place next Monday, and fet out for Bath a few days afterwards. I should not take all this trouble merely to prolong the fag-end of a life, from which I can expect no pleasure, and others no utility; but the cure, or at least the mitigation, of those physical ills which make that life a load while it does laft, is worth any trouble and attention.

We are come off but scurvily from our second attempt upon St. Malo: it is our last for this feafon; and, in my mind, should be our last for ever, unless we were to fend so great a sea and land sorce as to give us a moral certainty of taking some place of great importance, fuch as Breft, Rochefort, or Toulong . S.od words the Consequenced and I will

Monsieur Münchausen embarked vesterday, as he faid, for Prince Ferdinand's army, but as it is not generally thought that his military skill can be of any great use to that Prince, people conjecture, that his business must be of a very different nature, and fuspect separate negotiations, neutralities, and what not? Kniphausen does not relish it in the least, and is by no means fatisfied with the reasons that have been given him for it. Before he can arrive there, I reckon that something decisive will have passed in Saxony: if to the disadvantage of the King of Prusha, he is crushed: but if, on the contrary, he fhould get a complete victory (and he does not get half victories) over the Austrians, the winter may probably produce him and us a reasonable peace. I look upon Ruffia as bors de combat for some time; France is certainly fick of the war; under sidemon)

an unambitious King, and an incapable Ministry, if there is one at all; and, unassisted by those two Powers, the Empress Queen had better be quiet. Were any other man in the situation of the King of Prussia, I should not hesitate to pronounce him ruined; but he is such a prodigy of a man, that I will only say, I fear he will be ruined. It is by this time decided.

Your Cassel Court at Bremen is, I doubt, not very splendid: money must be wanting; but, however, I dare say their table is always good, for the Landgrave is a Gourmand; and as you are domestic there, you may be so too, and recruit your loss of slesh from your sever; but do not recruit too fast. Adieu.

LETTER CCCIX.

since are would combat Propositionals down to come

tage year. Pell canderd are nown hand, but to obligue

London, September the 26th, 1758.

TOMY DEAR FRIEND, YELL IS BESTEEN WEST CONTROL OF THE

A M forry to find that you had a return of your fever; but to fay the truth, you in some measure deserved it, for not carrying Dr. Middleton's bark and prescription with you. I foresaw that you would think yourself cured too soon, and gave you warning of it; but by-gones are by-gones, as Chartres, when he was dying, said of his sins: let us look forwards. You did very prudently to return to Hamburgh, to good bark, and, I hope, a good physician.

fician. Make all fure there before you stir from thence, notwithstanding the requests or commands of all the Princesses in Europe; I mean a month at least, taking the bark even to supererogation, that is, some time longer than Dr. Middleton requires; for I presume you are got over your childishness about tastes, and are sensible that your health deserves more attention than your palate. When you shall be thus re-established, I approve of your returning to Bremen; and indeed you cannot well avoid it, both with regard to your promise, and to the distinction with which you have been received by the Cassel family.

Now to the other part of your letter. Lord Holdernesse has been extremely civil to you, in sending you, all under his own hand, fuch obliging offers of his fervice. The hint is plain, that he will (in case you desire it) procure you leave to come home for fome time; fo that the fingle question is, Whether you should defire it or not, now. It will be two months before you can possibly undertake the journey, whether by fea or by land, and either way it would be a troublesome and dangerous one for a convalescent, in the rigour of the month of November; you could drink no mineral waters here in that feafon, nor are any mineral waters proper in your cafe, being all of them heating, except Seltzer's; then, what would do you more harm than all medicines could do you good, would be the peftilential vapours of the House of Commons, in long and crowded days, of which there will probably

bably be many this fession; where your attendance, if here, will necessarily be required. I compare St. Stephen's Chapel, upon those days, to la Grotta del Cane.

Whatever may be the fate of the war now, negotiations will certainly be ftirring all the winter, and of those, the northern ones, you are sensible, are not the least important: in these, if at Hamburgh, you will probably have your share, and perhaps a meritorious one. Upon the whole, therefore, I would advise you to write a very civil letter to Lord Holdernesse; and to tell him, that though you cannot hope to be of any use to his Majesty's affairs any where, yet, in the present unsettled state of the North, it is possible that unforeseen accidents may throw it in your way to be of some little service, and that you would not willingly be out of the way of those accidents; but that you shall be most extremely obliged to his Lordship, if he will procure you his Majesty's gracious permission, to return for a few months in the fpring, when probably affairs will be more fettled one way or another. When things tend nearer to a fettlement, and Germany, from the want of money or men, or both, breathes peace more than war. I shall folicit Burrish's commission for you, which is one of the most agreeable ones in his Majesty's gift; and I shall by no means despair of fuccess. Now I have given you my opinion upon this affair, which does not make a difference of above three months, or four at most, I would not be understood to mean to force your own, if it should happen

happen to be different from mine; but mine, I think. is more both for your health and your interest. However, do as you please; may you in this, and every thing elfe, do for the best! so God bless you.

Whitever may be the fate of the war from nego.

of those, the northern one, you are fishele, are

date E Th Tode Rounocccx. and who ally have in the care and refund

Bath, October the 18th, 1758

MY DEAR FRIEND,

happen

Received by the same post your two letters of the 29th past, and of the 3d instant. The last tells me, that you are perfectly recovered; and your resolution of going to Bremen in three or four days proves it; for furely you would not undertake that journey a fecond time, and at this feafon of the year, without feeling your health folidly reftored; however, in all events, I hope you have taken a provision of good bark with you. I think your attention to her Royal Highness may be of use to you here; and indeed all attentions, to all forts of people, are always repaid in some way or other; though real obligations are not. For instance; Lord Titchfield, who has been with you at Hamburgh, has written an account to the Duke and Dutchess of Portland, who are here, of the civilities you showed him; which he is much pleased, and they delighted with. At this rate, if you do not take care, you will get the unmanly reputation of a well-bred man; and your countryman, John Trott, will disown you.

I have received, and tasted of your present; which is a très grand vin, but more cordial to the stomach than pleasant to the palate. I keep it as physic, only to take occasionally, in little disorders of my stomach; and in those cases I believe it is wholesomer than stronger cordials,

I have been now here a fortnight; and though I am rather better than when I came, I am still far from well. My head is giddier than becomes a head of my age; and my stomach has not recovered its retentive faculty. Leaning forwards, particularly to write, does not at present agree with, Yours.

LETTER CCCXI.

It species and timines a supplicable to go and a factor

t bearth and the Bath, October the 28th, 1758.

TMY DEAR FRIEND, 1847 betresty at a cast 1 as

Your letter has quieted my alarms; for I find by it, that you are as well recovered as you could be in so short a time. It is your business now, to keep yourself well, by scrupulously following Dr. Middleton's directions. He seems to be a rational and knowing man. Soap and steel are, unquestionably, the proper medicines for your case; but as they are alteratives, you must take them for a very long time, six months at least; and then drink chalybeate waters. I am sully persuaded, that this was your original complaint in Carniola; which those ignorant physicians called, in their jargon, Arthritis

Artbritis vaga, and treated as fuch. But now the true cause of your illness is discovered, I flatter myself, that with time and patience on your part, you will be radically cured; but I repeat it again, it must be by a long and uninterrupted course of those alterative medicines above-mentioned. They have no tafte; but if they had a bad one, I will not now suppose you such a child, as to let the frowardness of your palate interfere, in the least, with the recovery or enjoyment of health. The latter, deferves the utmost attention of the most rational man; the former, is only the proper object of the care of a dainty, frivolous woman.

The run of luck, which fome time ago we were in, feems now to be turned against us. Oberg is completely routed; his Prussian Majesty was surprised, (which I am surprised at) and had rather the worst of it. I am in some pain for Prince Ferdinand; as I take it for granted, that the detachment from Maréchal de Contade's army, which enabled Prince Soubize to beat Oberg, will immediately return to the grand army, and then it will be infinitely fuperior. Nor do I see where Prince Ferdinand can take his winter quarters, unless he retires to Hanover; and that I do not take to be at present the land of Canaan. Our fecond expedition to St. Malo, I cannot call so much an unlucky, as an ill-conducted one; as was also Abercrombie's affair in America. Mais il n'y a pas de petite perte qui revient souvent; and all these accidents put together make a considerable fum total.

VOL. IV.

I have found so little good by these waters, that I do not intend to flay here above a week longer; and then remove my crazy body to London, which is the most convenient place, either to live or die in.

I cannot expect active health any where; you may, with common care and prudence, expect it every where; and God grant that you may have it! Adjeu 1950 Acres 27041 suspenso suspensolvens sunder

LETTER CCCXII. of roa to lod or a

end-versione of the shape and the state of the same ide as never as utilizationed may to soon all for the

London, November the 21st, 1758.

all logger distribution and the company of

MY DEAR FRIEND, benny ad of won amail mi

TOU did well to think of Prince Ferdinand's riband, which I confess I did not; and I am glad to find you thinking fo far before hand. It would be a pretty commission, and I will actingere me to procure it you. The only competition I fear, is that of General Yorke, in case Prince Ferdinand should pass any time with his brother at the Hague, which is not unlikely, fince he cannot go to Bounfwick to his eldest brother, upon account of their firmulated quarrel days to hori

I fear the piece is at an end with the King of Proffia, and he may fay ilicet; I am fure he may perfonally fay plaudite. Warm work is expected this fession of Parliament, about continent and no continent: fome think Mr. Pitt too continent, others too little fo; but a little time, as the news-papers most prudently prudently and truly observe, will clear up these matters.

The King has been ill; but his illness has terminated in a good fit of the gout, with which he is still confined. It was generally thought that he would have died, and for a very good realon; for the oldest Lion in the Tower, much about the King's age, died a fortnight ago. This extravagancy, I can affure you, was believed by many above peuple. So wild and capricious is the human mind!

Take care of your health, as much as you can; for, to be, or not to be, is a question of much less importance, in my mind, than to be or not to be well. Adieu

the be present committee and Period Parcin

riband, which I confer I did not and Tan

e ra procure it you at he will conspection I fear busnibasi saming alea London, December the 15th, 1758.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

To a great while fince I heard from you, but I hope that good, not ill health, has been the occafion of this filence; I will suppose you have been, or to are still at Bremen, and engrossed by your Hessian

Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick is most certainly to have the Garter, and I think I have secured you orthe honour of putting it on. When I fay fecured, I fromean it in the fense in which that word should always M 2 vondehtly

always be understood at Courts, and that is insecurely; I have a promise, but that is not caution bourgeoise. In all events, do not mention it to any mortal, because there is always a degree of ridicule that attends a difappointment, though often very unjustly, if the expectation was reasonably grounded; however, it is certainly most prudent not to communicate, prematurely, one's hopes or one's fears. I cannot tell you when Prince Ferdinand will have it; though there are so many candidates for the other two vacant Garters, that I believe he will have his foon, and by himself, the others must wait till a third, or rather a fourth vacancy. Lord Rockingham and Lord Holdernesse are secure; Lord Temple pushes strongly, but, I believe, is not secure. This commission for dubbing a Knight, and fo diftinguished a one, will be a very agreeable and creditable one for you, et il faut vous en acquitter galamment. In the days of ancient chivalry, people were very nice, whom they would be knighted by; and, if I do not mistake, Francis the First would only be knighted by the Chevalier Bayard, qui étoit preux Chevalier et sans reproche; and no doubt but it will be recorded, dans les archives de la Maison de Brunswick, that Prince Ferdinand received the honour of knighthood from your hands.

The estimates for the expences of the year 1759 are made up; I have seen them; and what do you think they amount to? No less than twelve millions three hundred thousand pounds: a most incredible sum, and yet already all subscribed, and even more offered!

offered! The unanimity in the House of Commons, in voting such a sum, and such forces, both by sea and land, is not less astonishing. This is Mr. Pitt's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.

. The King of Prussia has nothing more to do this year; and the next, he must begin where he has left off. I wish he would employ this winter in concluding a separate peace with the Elector of Saxony; which would give him more elbow-room, to act against France and the Queen of Hungary, and put an end at once to the proceedings of the Diet, and the army of the Empire; for then no Estate of the Empire would be invaded by a co-Estate, and France, the faithful and difinterested guarantee of the Treaty of Westphalia, would have no pretence to continue its armies there. I should think that his Polish Majesty, and his Governor Comte Brühl, must be pretty weary of being fugitives in Poland, where they are hated, and of being ravaged in Saxony. This rêverie of mine, I hope, will be tried, and I wish it may fucceed. Good night, and God bless you.

mon booking T T E R CCCXIV.

that I have their be a changed at branch from I than

London, New Year's-day, 1759.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

MOLTI e felici, and I have done upon that fubject, one truth being fair, upon the most lying day in the whole year.

lying day in the whole year.

I have now before me your last letter, of the 21st

M 3

December,

December, which I am glad to find is a bill of health: but, however, do not prefume too much upon it, but obey and honour your physician, "that

thy days may be long in the land."

Since my last, I have heard nothing more concessing the riband; but I take it for granted it will be disposed of soon. By the way, upon restection, I am not fure that any body but a Knight can, according to form, be employed to make a Knight. I remember that Sir Clement Cotterel was sent to Holland, to dubb the late Prince of Orange, only because he was a Knight himself; and I know that the proxies of Knights, who cannot attend their own installations, must always be Knights. This did not occur to me before, and perhaps will not to the perfon who was to recommend you; I am sure I will not stir it; and I only mention it now, that you may be in all events prepared for the disappointment, if it should happen.

G * * is exceedingly flattered with your account, that three thousand of his countrymen, all as little as himself, should be thought a sufficient guard upon three-and-twenty thousand of all the nations in Europe; not that he thinks himself, by any means, a little man, for when he would describe a tall, handsome man, he raises himself up at least half an inch

to represent him.

The private news from Hamburgh is, that his Majesty's Resident there is woundily in love with Madame * * * *; if this be true, God send him, rather than her, a good delivery. She must be étrennée

étrennée at this season, and therefore I think you should be so too; so draw upon me as soon as you please, for one hundred pounds.

Here is nothing new, except the unanimity with which the Parliament gives away a dozen of millions fterling; and the unanimity of the public is as great in approving of it; which has stifled the usual political and polemical argumentations.

. Cardinal Bernis's difgrace is as fudden, and hitherto as little understood, as his elevation was. I have feen his poems, printed at Paris, not by a friend, I dare fay; and, to judge by them, I humbly conceive his Eminency is a p-y. I will fay nothing of that excellent head-piece that made him. and unmade him, in the fame month, except O King. live for ever.

Good night to you, whomever you pass it

LETTER CCCXV.

London, February the 2d, 1759.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

WE HAVE THE BEING THE WORK SHE

IAM now (what I have very feldom been) two letters in your debt: the reason was, that my head, like many other heads, has frequently taken a wrong turn; in which case, writing is painful to me, and therefore cannot be very pleasant to my readers.

I wish you would (while you have so good an opportunity M 4 .

opportunity as you have at Hamburgh) make yourself persectly master of that dull, but very useful knowledge, the Course of Exchange, and the causes of its almost perpetual variations; the value and relation of different Coins, the Specie, the Banco, Usances, Agio, and a thousand other particulars. You may with ease learn, and you will be very glad when you have learned them; for, in your business, that fort of knowledge will often prove necessary.

I hear nothing more of Prince Ferdinand's Garter: that he will have one is very certain; but when, I believe, is very uncertain; all the other postulants wanting to be dubbed at the same time, which cannot be, as there is not riband enough for them.

If the Russians move in time, and in earnest, there will be an end of our hopes and of our armies in Germany: three such mill-stones as Russia, France, and Austria, must, sooner or later, in the course of the year, grind his Prussian Majesty down to a mere Margrave of Brandenburgh. But I have always some hopes of a change under a Gunarchy*; where whim and humour commonly prevail, reason very seldom, and then only by a lucky mistake.

I except the incomparable fair one of Hamburgh, that prodigy of beauty, and paragon of good fense, who has enflaved your mind, and inflamed your heart. If she is as well étrennée as you say she shall, you will be soon out of her chains; for I

have,

^{*} Derived from the Greek word Turn, a woman, and means

have, by long experience, found women to be like Telephus's spear, if one end kills, the other cures.

There never was so quiet, or so silent a session of Parliament as the present: Mr. Pitt declares only what he would have them do, and they do it nemine contradicente, Mr. Viner only excepted.

Dutches Hamilton is to be married, to-morrow, to Colonel Campbell, the son of General Campbell, who will some day or other be Duke of Argyle, and have the estate. She refused the Duke of B—r for him.

Here is a report, but I believe a very groundless one, that your old acquaintance, the fair Madame C—e, is run away from her husband, with a jeweller, that étrennes her, and is come over here; but I dare say it is some mistake, or perhaps a lie. Adieu! God bless you!

LETTER CCCXVI.

London, February the 27th, 1759-

MY DEAR FRIEND,

In your last letter, of the 7th, you accuse me, most unjustly, of being in arrears in my correspondence; whereas, if our epistolary accounts were fairly liquidated, I believe you would be brought in considerably debtor. I do not see how any of my letters to you can miscarry, unless your office packet miscarries too, for I always send them to the office. Moreover, I might have a justifiable excuse

excuse for writing to you seldomer than usual, for to be sure there never was a period of time, in the middle of a winter, and the Parliament sitting, that supplied so little matter for a letter. Near twelve millions have been granted this year, not only nemine contradicente, but nemine quicquid dicente. The proper officers bring in the estimates; it is taken for granted that they are necessary, and frugal; the Members go to dinner, and leave Mr. West and Mr. Martin to do the rest.

I prefume you have seen the little poem of the Country Lass, by Soame Jenyns, for it was in the Chronicle; as was also an answer to it, from the Monitor. They are neither of them bad performances; the first is the neatest, and the plan of the second has the most invention. I send you none of those pieces volantes in my letters, because they are all printed in one or other of the news-papers, particularly the Chronicles; and I suppose that you and others have all those papers amongst you at Hamburgh; in which case it would be only putting you to the unnecessary expence of double postage.

I find you are fanguine about the King of Prussia this year; I allow his army will be what you say; but what will that be vis à vis French Arustrians, Imperialists, Swedes, and Russians, who must amount to more than double that number? Were the inequality less, I would allow for the King of Prussia's being so much ipse agmen as pretty nearly to balance the account. In war, numbers are generally my omens; and I confess, that in Germany they seem

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not happy ones this year. In America, I think, we are fure of fuccess, and great success; but how we that be able to ftrike a balance, as they call it. between good fuccess there, and ill success upon the continent, for as to come at a peace, is more than I can discover.

Lady Chesterfield makes you her compliments. and thanks you for your offer; but declines troubling you, being discouraged by the ill success of Madame Münchausen's and Miss Chetwynd's commissions, the former for beef, and the latter for gloves, neither of which have yet been executed. to the diffatisfaction of both. Adieu.

the most investigated and the most rest into LETTER CCCXVII.

London, March the 16th, 1759

MY DEAR FRIEND.

Have now your letter of the 20th past lying before me, by which you despond, in my opinion too foon, of dubbing your Prince; for he most certainly will have the Garter; and he will as probably have it before the campaign opens, as after, His campaign must, I doubt, at best, be a defensive one; and he will how great skill in making it fuch; for, according to my calculation, his enemies will be at least double his number. Their troops, indeed, may perhaps be worse than his; but then their number will make up that defect, as it will enable them to undertake different operations at

the same time. I cannot think that the King of Denmark will take a part in the present war; which he cannot do without great possible danger: and he is well paid by France for his neutrality; is fafe, let what will turn out; and, in the mean time, carries on his commerce with great advantage and fecurity: fo that that confideration will not retard your visit to your own country, whenever you have leave to return, and your own arrangemens will allow you. A short absence animates a tender paffion, et l'on ne recule que pour mieux fauter, especially in the summer months; so that I would advise you to begin your journey in May, and continue your absence from the dear object of your vows till after the dog-days, when love is faid to be unwholesome. We have been disappointed at Martinico; I wish we may not be fo at Guadaloupe, though we are landed there; for many difficulties must be got over, before we can be in possession of the whole island. A propos de bottes; you make use of two Spanish words, very properly, in your letter; were I you, I would learn the Spanish language, if there were a Spaniard at Hamburgh who could teach me; and then you would be mafter of all the European languages that lare useful; and, in my mind, it is very convenient, if not necessary, for a public man to understand them all; and not to be obliged to have recourse to an interpreter, for those papers that chance or business may throw in his way. I learned Spanish when I was older than you; convinced, by experience

experience, that, in every thing possible, it was better to trust to one's self, than to any other body whatsoever. Interpreters, as well as relators, are often unfaithful, and still oftener incorrect, puzzling, and blundering. In short, let it be your maximum through life, to know all you can know, yourself; and never to trust implicitly to the informations of others. This rule has been of infinite service to me, in the course of my life.

I am rather better than I was; which I owe not to my physicians, but to an ass and a cow, who nourish me, between them, very plentifully and wholesomely; in the morning the ass is my nurse, at night the cow; and I have just now bought a milch-goat, which is to graze, and nurse me at Blackheath. I do not know what may come of this latter, and I am not without apprehensions that it may make a satyr of me; but, should I find that obscene disposition growing upon me, I will check it in time, for fear of endangering my life and character by rapes. And so we heartily bid you farewel.

LETTER CCCXVIII.

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London, March the 30th, 1759-

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I DO not like these frequent, however short, returns of your illness; for I doubt they imply either want of skill in your physician, or want of

regimen is necessary, and that for a long continuance. Acids are good for you, but you do not love them; and sweet things are bad for you, and you do love them. There is another thing very bad for you, and I fear you love it too much. When I was in Holland, I had a flow fever, that hung upon me a great while; I consulted Boerhaave, who prescribed me what I suppose was proper, for it cured me; but he added, by way of postscript to his prescription, Venus rarius colatur: which I observed, and perhaps that made the medicines more effectual.

I doubt we shall be mutually disappointed in our hopes of feeing one another this fpring, as I believe wou will find, by a letter which you will receive, at the same time with this, from Lord Holdernesse; but as Lord Holderneffe will not tell you all, I will, between you and me, supply that defect. I must do him the justice to say, that he has acted in the most kind and friendly manner possible to us both. When the King read your letter, in which you defined leave to return, for the take of drinking the Tunbridge-waters, he faid, "If he wants fteel waters, there of Pyrmont are better than Tunbridge, and he can have them very fresh at Hamburgh. I would rather he had asked to come last autumn, and had passed the winter hore, for if he returns how, I shall have nobody in those quarters to inoff we' " form

form me of what passes; and yet it will be a very " bufy and important scene." Lord Holdernelle, who found that it would not be liked, refolved to push it no farther; and replied, he was very fure, that when you knew his Majesty had the least objection to your return at this time, you would think of it no longer; and he owned that he (Lord Holdernesse) had given you encouragement for this application, last year, then thinking and hoping that there would be little occasion for your presence at Hamburgh this year. Lord Holdernesse will only tell you, in his letter, that as he had some reason to believe, his moving this matter would be difagreeable to the King, he refolved, for your fake, not to mention it. You must answer his letter upon that foot fingly, and thank him for this mark of his friendship; for he has really acted as your friend. I make no doubt of your having willing leave to return in autumn, for the whole winter. In the mean time, make the best of your sejour where you are; drink the Pyrmont waters, and no wine but Rhenish, which, in your case, is the only proper one for you.

Next week, Mr. Harte will fend you his Gustavus Adolphus, in two quartos; it will contain many hew particulars of the life of that real hero, as he has had abundant and authentic materials which have never yet appeared. It will, upon the whole, be a very curious and valuable history; though, between you and me, I could have wished that he and been more correct and elegant in his style. You will find it dedicated to one of your acquaintance, cutof " who

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who was forced to prune the luxuriant praises be flowed upon him, and yet has left enough of all conscience to satisfy a reasonable man. Harte has been very much out of order, these last three or four months, but is not the less intent upon sowing his Lucerne, of which he had six crops last year, to his infinite joy, and, as he says, profit. As a gardener, I shall probably have as much joy, though not quite so much profit, by thirty or forty shillings; for there is the greatest promise of fruit this year, at Blackheath, that ever I saw in my life. Vertumnus and Pomona have been very propitious to me; as for Priapus, that tremendous garden God, as I no longer invoke him, I cannot expect his protection from the birds and the thieves.

Adieu! I will conclude like a pedant, Levius sit patientia quicquid corrigere est nesas.

was wind administration of the article by others.

LETTER CCCXIX.

London, April the 16th, 1759.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

WITH humble submission to you, I still say, that if Prince Ferdinand can make a defensive campaign this year, he will have done a great deal, considering the great inequality of numbers. The little advantages of taking a regiment or two prisoners, or cutting another to pieces, are but trisling articles in the great account; they are only the pence, the pounds are yet to come; and I take it for

will

for granted, that neither the French, nor the Court of Vienna, will have le déments of their main object, which is unquestionably Hanover; for that is the fumma fummarum; and they will certainly take care to draw a force together for this purpole, too great for any that Prince Ferdinand has, or can have, to oppose them. In short, mark the end on't, j'en augure mal If France, Austria, the Empire, Russia, and Sweden, are not, at long run, too hard for the two Electors of Hanover and Brandenburgh, there must be some invisible power, some tutelar Delties, that miraculoufly interpole in favour of the Sectificean, with the clearness, puntry, and distint

You encourage me to accept all the powers that goats, affes, and bulls, can give me, by engaging for my not making an ill use of them; but I own, I cannot help diffrufting myfelf a little, or rather human nature; for it is an old and very true observation, that there are mifers of money; but none of power; and the non-use of the one, and the abuse of the other, increase in proportion to their quantity.

I am very forry to tell you, that Harte's Gustavus Adolphus does not take at all, and confequently fells very little: It is certainly informing, and full of good matter; but it is as certain too, that the ftyle is execrable: where the devil he picked it up, I cannot conceive, for it is a bad ftyle, of a new and fingular kind, it is full of Latinisms, Galicisms, Germanisms, and all isms but Anglicisms; in some places pompous, in others vulgar and low. Surely, before the end of the world, people, and you in particular, Vot. TV.

will discover, that the manner, in every thing, is at least as important as the matter; and that the latter never can please, without a good degree of elegancy in the former. This holds true in every thing in life in writing, converting, bulines, the help of the Graces is absolutely necessary and whoever vainly thinks himfelf above them, will find he is miftaken, when it will be too late to court them, for they will not come to ftrangers of an advanced age. There is an History lately come out, of the Reign of Mary Queen of Scots, and her fon (no matter by whom) King James, written by one Robertson, a Scotchman, which for clearness, purity, and dignity of Ayle, I will not scruple to compare with the best historians extant, not excepting Davila, Guicciardini, and perhaps Livy. Its fucces has confequently been great, and a fecond edition is already published, and bought up. I take it for granted, that it is to be had, or at least borrowed, at Hamburgh, or I would lend it you then are a grange to nour look

In I hope you drink the Pyrmont waters every morning. The health of the mind depends so much upon the health of the body, that the latter deserves the utmost attention, independently of the sons. God send you a very great share of both!

eltimating rhings fairly, is not the chapte rather to your advantage? Is not she funmer matcheligible, both for health and pleature, than the garrer, in that northern frozen Zone? and will not the winter, in the England, supply you with more pleatures than the fulnment thealth capital, could have done? So

LETTER

will discovered the second and and the latter

vaningsh 30 as 190b boos London, April the 27th, 1759.

in the furnish of this house endings and a definite

Have received your two letters of the roth and right, by the last mail; and I will begin my answer to them, by observing to you, that a wife man, without being a Stoic, confiders, in all miffortunes that befal him, their best as well as their worst side; and every thing has a better and a worse fitter I have firstly observed that rule for many years, and have found by experience, that fome comfore is to be extracted, under most moral ills, by confidering them in every light, inflead of dwelling, as people are too apt to do, upon the gloomy fide of the object. Thank God, the disappointment that you to datherically groan under, is not a calamity which admits of no confolation. Let us simplify it, and fee what it amounts to You were pleafed with the expectation of coming here next month, to fee those who would have been pleafed with feeing you. That, from very natural causes, cannot be and you must pass this furnmer at Hamburgh, and next winter in England, instead of palling this furmer in England, and next winter at Hamburgh. Now, estimating things fairly, is not the change rather to your advantage? Is not the fummer more eligible, both for health and pleasure, than the winter, in that northern, frozen Zone? and will not the winter, in England, fupply you with more pleasures than the fummer, in an empty capital, could have done? So far HETTHER

far then it appears, that you are rather a gainer by your misfortune.

The tour too, which you propose making to Lubeck, Altena, &c., will both amuse and inform you; for, at your age, one cannot see too many different places and people; since at the age you are now of, I take it for granted, that you will not see them superficially, as you did when you first went abroad.

This whole matter then, fummed up, amounts to no more than this that you will be here next winter, instead of this summer. Do not think that all I have faid is the confolation only of an old philosophical fellow, almost insensible of pleasure or pain, offered to a young fellow who has quick fensations of both. No, it is the rational philosophy taught me by experience and knowledge of the world, and which I have practifed above thirty years. I always made the best of the best, and never made bad worse, by fretting; this enabled me to go through the various scenes of life, in which I have been an actor, with more pleafure and less pain than most people. You will fay, perhaps. One cannot change one's nature; and that if a person is born of a very sensible gloomy temper, and apt to fee things in the worst light, they cannot help it, nor new make themselves. I will admit it, to a certain degree, and but to a certain degree; for though we cannot totally change our nature, we may in a great measure correct it, by reflection and philofophy; and fome philosophy is a very necessary companion in this world, where, even to the most fortunate, the chances are greatly against happiness. viapilo

I am not old enough, nor tenacious enough, to pretend not to understand the main purport of your last letter; and, to flow you that I do, you may draw upon me for two hundred pounds, which, I hope, will more than clear you. ART SHOT ARE THOU TE THO

Good night, æquam memento rebus in arduis servare mentem; be neither transported nor depressed by the accidents of life. which was billy over villaron This whole fraction that amorned upo anothers to

inflead of the firms of any courth of the will have Isolute East T T E R L CCCXXI. bist

Blackheath, May the 16th, 1759.

OUR Secretary's last letter, of the 4th, which I received yesterday, has quieted my fears a good deal, but has not intirely diffipated them. Four fever still continues, he fays, though in a less degree! Is is a continued fever, or an intermitting one? If the former, no wonder that you are weak, and that your head achs. If the latter, why has not the bark, in fubitance and large doses, been administered? for, if it had, it must have stopped it by this time. Next post, I hope, will set me quite at case. Surely you have not been fo regular as you ought, either in your medicines, or in your general regimen, otherwise this fever would not have returned; for the Doctor calls it your fever returned, as if you had an exclusive pau tene for it. You have now had illnesses enough, to know the value of health, and to make you implicitly follow the prescriptions of your physician cos V7 in

in medicines, and the rules of your own common fense in diet; in which, I can assure you, from my own experience, that quantity is often worse than quality; and I would rather eat half a pound of bacon at a meal, than two pounds of any the most wholesome food.

I have been fettled here near a week, to my great satisfaction, c'est ma place, and I know it, which is not given to every body. Cut off from focial life by my deafness, as well as other physical ills, and being at best but the ghost of my former self, I walk here in filence and folitude as becomes a ghost; with this only difference, that I walk by day, whereas, you know, to be fure, that other ghofts only appear by night, My health, however, is better than it was last year, thanks to my almost total milk diet. This enables me to vary my folitary amusements, and alternately to scribble as well as read, which I could not do last year. Thus I faunter away the remainder, be it more or less, of an agitated and active life, now reduced, (and I am not fure that I am a loser by the change) to so quiet and serene a one, that it may properly be called, ftill life.

The French whisper in confidence, in order that it may be the more known and the more credited, that they intend to invade us this year, in no less than three places; that is, England, Scotland, and Ireland. Some of our great men, like the Devils, believe and tremble; others, and one little one, whom I know, laugh at it; and, in general, it seems to be but a poor instead of a formidable scarcerow.

While

While somebady was at the head of a moderate army, and wanted (I know why) to be at the head of a great one, intended invalions, were made an article of political faith; and the belief of them was required, as in the Church the belief of some absurdities, and even impossibilities, is required, upon pain of herely, excommunication, and confequently damnation, if they tend to the power and interest of the Heads of the Church. But now, there is a general toleration, and the best Subjects, as well as the best Christians, may believe what their reason and their consciences fuggest, it is generally and rationally supposed, the French will threaten and not firike, fince we are fo well prepared, both by armies and fleets, to receive, and, I may add, to destroy them. Adieu! God bless, you. laft year, thanks to my almost total or

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enables into top vary into foliary amproperties and alternately to feribble as well as read, which I could

Blackheath, June the 15th, 1759.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

YOUR letter of the 5th, which I received yelterday, gave me great fatisfaction, being all in
your own hand; though it contains great, and I
fear just complaints of your ill state of health. You
do very well to change the air; and I hope that change
will do well by you. I would therefore have you
write, after the 20th of August, to Lord Holdernesse,
to beg of him to obtain his Majesty's leave for you
to return to England for two or three months, upon
N 4

LORD CHASTEREDELD'S LETTERS

account of your health. Two or three months is an indefinite time, which may afterwards be infensibly firetched to what length one pleases; leave that to me. In the mean time you may be taking your measures with the best economy.

The day before yesterday, an express arrived from Guadaloupe; which brought an account of our being in possession of the whole island. And I make no manner of doubt, but that, in about two months, we shall have as good news from Crown-point, Quebec, &c. Our affairs in Germany, I fear, will not be equally prosperous; for I have very little hopes for the King of Prussia or Prince Ferdinand. God bless you.

caracterizations forested the new approaching caracterization. Our attents in the

-sud bogie grifsold Blackheath, June the 25th, 1759.

A MY DEAR FRIEND, moinhing a story &

The two last mails have brought me no letter from you or your Secretary. I will take this silence as a sign that you are better; but however, if you thought that I cared to know, you should have cared to have written. Here the weather has been very fine for a fortnight together; a longer term than in this climate we are used to hold fine weather by. I hope it is so too at Hamburgh, or at least at the villa to which you are gone; but pray do not let it be your villa viciosa, as those retirements are often called, and too often prove; though one of the called, and too often prove; though the contract of the called, and too often prove; though the called th

(by the way) the original name was villa versofa; and by wags miscalled viciosas

I have a most gloomy prospect of affairs in Gen many, the French are already in possession of Cassel, and of the learned part of Hanover, that is Gottingen; where I prefume they will not ftop four l'amour des Belles Lettres, but rather go on to the Capital, and study them upon the coin. My old acquaintance, Monsieur de Richelieu, made a great progress there in metallic learning and inferiptions. If Prince Ferdinand ventures a battle to prevent it, I dread the consequences; the odds are too great against him. The King of Prussia is still in a worse fituation; for he has the Hydra to encounter: and though he may cut off a head or two, there will still be enough left to devour him at last. I have, as you know, long foretold the now approaching catastrophe; but I was Cassandra. Our affairs in the new world have a much more pleafing afpect; Guadaloupe is a great acquisition, and Quebec, which I make no doubt of, will still be a greater. But must all these advantages, purchased at the price of formuch English blood and treasure; be at last far crificed as a peace-offering? God knows what confequences such a measure may produce; the germe of discontent is already great; upon the bare suppor fition of the cafe; but, should it be realised, it will grow to a harvest of disaffection god 1

You are now, to be fure, taking the previous here ceffary measures for your return here in the autumn; and I think you may disband your whole family,

excepting your secretary, your butler who takes care of your plate, wine, &c. one, or at most two, maid servants, and your valet de chambre, and one footman, whom you will bring over with you. But give no mortal, either there or here, reason to think that you are not to return to Hamburgh again. If you are asked about it, say, like Lockhart, that you are le serviteur des événemens; for your present appointments will do you no hurt here, till you have some better destination. At that season of the year, I believe, it will be better for you to come by sea than by land, but that you will be best able to judge of from the then circumstances of your part of the world.

Your old friend Stevens is dead, of the confumption that has long been undermining him. God bless you, and send you health!

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-brid siech elede non and Bath, Pobeuary the soth, 1761.

MY DEAR FRIEND

I A M very glad to hear that your election is finally fettled, and, to say the truth, not forry that Mr. ** has been compelled to do, de mauraise grace, that which he might have done at first in a friendly and handsome manner. However, take no notice of what is past, and live with him as you used to do before; for, in the intercourse of the world, it is often necessary to soom ignorant of what one

one knows, and to have forgotten what one re-

I have just now finished Coleman's play, and like it very well; it is well conducted, and the characters are well preserved. I own, I expected from the author more dialogue wit; but, as I know that he is a most scrupulous classic, I believe he did not dare to put in half so much wit as he could have done, because Terence has not a single grain; and it would have been crimen less antiquitatis. God bless you!

LETTER CCCXXV

Bath, November the 21st, 1761.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I HAVE this moment received your letter of the 19th. If I find any alterations by drinking these waters, now six days, it is rather for the better; but, in six days more, I think I shall find, with more certainty, what humour they are in with me; if kind, I will prosit of, but not abuse their kindness; all things have their bounds, quos ultra citrave nequit confisere ressum; and I will endeavour to nich that point.

The Queen's jointure is larger than, from fone reasons, I expected it would be, though not greater than the very last precedent authorized. The case of the late Lord Wilmington was, I fancy, remembered.

I have now good reafon to believe, that Spain will declare

declare war to us; that is, that it will very foon, if it has not already, avowedly affift France, in case the war continues. This will be a great triumph to Mr. Pitt, and fully justify his plan of beginning with Spain first, and having the first blow, which is often half the battle.

Here is a great deal of company, and what is commonly called good company, that is, great quality. I trouble them very little, except at the pump, where my business calls me; for, what is company to a deaf man, or a deaf man to company?

Lady Brown, whom I have feen, and who, by the way, has got the gout in her eye, inquired very tenderly after you. And fo I elegantly reft,

and well said governor and and any Yours till death, ug

L E T T E R CCCXXVI.

Trans the vingas coperies, for, as to facts, I

Bath, December the 6th, 1761.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

I have been in your debt some time, which, you know, I am not very apt to be; but it was really for want of specie to pay. The present state of my invention does not enable me to coin; and you would have had as little pleasure in reading, as I should have had in writing le coglionerie of this place; besides, that I am very little mingled in them. I do not know whether I shall be able to follow your advice, and cut a winner: for, at present, I have neither won nor lost a single shilling. I will

will play on this week only; and if I have a good min, I will carry it off with men if a had one, the loss can hardly amount to any thing confiderable in feven days, for I hope to see you in town to morrow sevennight.

I had a dismal letter from Harte, last week; he tells me that he is at nurse with a sister in Berkshire; that he has got a confirmed jaundice, besides twenty other distempers. The true cause of these complaints I take to be, the same that so greatly disordered, and had nearly destroyed the most august House of Austria, about one hundred and thirty years ago; I mean Gustavus Adolphus; who neither answered his expectations in point of profit, nor reputation, and that merely by his own fault, in nor writing it in the vulgar tongue; for, as to facts, I will maintain, that it is one of the best histories extant.

Au revoir, as Sir Fopling fays, and God bless you.

LETTER CCCXXVII.

ausil marrig and Bath, November the 2d, 1762.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

har washin December the 6th, 1761.

Arrived here, as I proposed, last Sunday; but as ill as I feared I should be, when I saw you. Head, stomach, and limbs, all out of order.

I have yet feen nobody but Villettes, who is fettled here for good, as it is called. What confequences has the Duke of Devonshire's relignation

had?

had it life has confidenable donnections, and relations; but whether any of them are refigued enough to relign with him, is another matter! There will be. to be fure, as many, and as abford reports, as there are in the law books; I do not defire to know either: but inform the of what facts come to your knowledge, and of fuch reports only as you believe are grounded. And for God blefs you had an another the see as abitet deliber impressible as enote of dien.

giorbered and duids, only defluored die took the war. LETTER CCCXXVIII

Bath, November the 13th, 1762. and one hosexperion, which

BOMY DEAR FRIEND

Have received your letter, and believe that your Preliminaries are very near the mark quand; upon that fuppolition, I think we have made a tolerable good bargain with Spain; at least, full as good as I expected, and almost as good as I wished, though I do not believe that we have got all Florida; but if we have St. Augustin, as I suppose, that, by the figure of pars pro toto, will be called all Florida. We have by no means made fo good a bargain with France; for, in truth, what do we get by it, except Canada, with a very proper boundary of the river Millifippi, and that is all? As for the restrictions upon the French fishery in Newfoundland, they are very well per la predica, and for the Commiliary whom we shall employ; for he will have a good falary from hence, to fee that those restrictions are complied with; and the French will double that erislo 6 falary,

falary, what he many sallow them allow be broken through a kine plain to mentile the Bronch fallery will be exactly what it was before the war a town entire

The three Leeward islands, which the French yield to us, late not, all together, worth half for much as that of St. Lucia, which we give up to them. Senegal is not worth one datatter of Gare. The refrictions of the Brench in the Enty Indies are as abfurd and impractitable as those of Newfoundland, and you will live to fee the French trade to the East Indies, just as they did before the war. But, after all I have faid, the Articles are as good as I expected with France, when I confidered that no one fingle person, who carried on this negotiation on our parts, was ever concerned or confulted in any negotiation before. Upon the whole, then, the acquisition of Canada has cost us fourscore millions ferling. I am convinced we might have kept Guadaloupe, if our negotiators had known how to have gone about it with which and play to the

His most Faithful Majesty of Portugal is the best off of any body in this transaction, for the sayes his kingdom by it, and has not laid out one Mordore in defence of it. Spain, thank God, in some measure, pain les pors casses, far, besides St. Augusting Log-mood, isc. it has lest undeast sour millions starting, in money, ships, scient

place these three years, excepting some few expurosions to his lister, the looks ill, and laments that he thas frequent sits of the yellow jaundice. He com-

plains of his not having heard from you these sour years; you should write to him. These waters have done me a great deal of good, though I drink but two thirds of a pint in the whole day, which is less than the solecule of my countrymen drink of claret at every meals as a solecular and a solecular at every meals as a solecular at every meals and a solecular at every meals as a solecular at every meals and a solecular at every meals and a solecular at every meals and a solecular at

I should naturally think, as you do, that this session will be a stormy one, that is, if Mr. Pitt takes an active part; but if he is pleased, as the Ministers say, there is no other Zolus to blow a storm. The Dukes of Cumberland, Newcastle, and Devonshire, have no better troops to attack with, than the militia; but Pitt alone is ipse agment. God bless you to

E E T T E R CCCXXIX.

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rand syad singers are benti Bath, November die 27th, 1762.

MY DRAR PRIBNO Statement out it requelestate

I Received your letter this morning, and return you the ball a la volée. The King's speech is a very prudent one, and, as I suppose that the Addresses, in answer to it, were, as usual, in almost the same words; my Lord Mayor might very well call them innocent. As his Majesty expaniates so much upon the great atchievements of the war, I cannot help hoping that, when the Preliminaries shall be laid before Parliament in due time, which, I suppose, means after the respective ratifications of all the contracting parties, that some untalked of and unexpected advantage will break out in our treaty with France:

France; St. Lucia, at least. I see, in the newspapers, an article which I by ho means like, in our treaty with Spain; which is, that we shall be at liberty to cut logwood in the Bay of Campeachy, but paying for it. Who does not see that this condition may, and probably will, amount to a prohibition, by the price, which the Spaniards may set it at? It was our undoubted right, and confirmed to us by former treaties, before the war, to cut logwood gratis; but this new stipulation (if true) gives us a privilege, something like a reprieve to a criminal, with a non obstance to be hanged.

I now drink fo little water, that it can neither do me good nor hurt; but as I bathe but twice a week, that operation, which does my rheumatic carcafe good, will keep me here fome time longer than you had allowed.

Harte is going to publish a new edition of his Gustavus, in octavo; which, he tells me, he has altered, and which, I could tell him, he should translate into English, or it will not sell better than the former; for, while the world endures, style and manner will be regarded, at least as much as matter. And so, Dieu vous ait dans sa sainte garde!

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help beging that, when the Policinary deal is land, being an action of the policy of the policy of the policy and the policy of the policy makes along the policy of the p

the near well for three hours and an halfy I quel di aly Eliktro Tin Earthw CCCXXX unit

grath it the fallen Augels, ever tooke lolding Bath, December the 4th, 1764

MY DEAR FRIEND.

Received your letter this morning, with the enclosed Preliminaries, which we have had here these three days; and I return them, fince you intend to keep them, which is more than I believe the French will. I am very glad to find that the French are to restore all the conquests they made upon us in the East Indies during this war; and I cannot doubt but they will likewife restore to us all the Cod that they shall take, within less than three leagues of our coasts in North America, (a distance easily measured, especially at sea) according to the spirit, though not the letter of the Treaty. I am informed, that the strong opposition to the Peace will be in the House of Lords, though I cannot well conceive it; nor can I make out above fix or feven, who will be against it upon a division, unless (which I cannot suppose) fome of the Bishops should vote on the side of their maker. God bless you!

LETTER CCCXXXI.

Bath, December the 13th, 1762.

MY DEAR FRIEND. VESTERDAY I received your letter, which gave me a very clear account of the debate in your House. It is impossible for a human creature

to speak well for three hours and an half; I queftion even if Belial, who, according to Milton, was the orator of the fallen Angels, ever spoke so long at a time.

There must have been a trick in Charles Town shend's speaking for the Preliminaries; for he is infinitely above having an opinion. Lord Egremont must be ill, or have thoughts of going into fome other place: perhaps into Lord Granville's, who they fay i dying: when he dies, the ableft head in England dies too, take it for all in all.

I shall be in town, barring accidents, this day fevennight, by dinner-time; when I have ordered a Haricot, to which you will be very welcome, about four o'clock. En attendant Dieu vous ait dans fa Sainte garde.

LETTER CCCXXXII.

Blackheath, June the 14th, 1763.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

TReceived, by the last mail, your letter of the 4th, from the Hague, fo far fo good. You arrived sonica at the Hague, for our Embassador's, entertainment; I find he has been very civil to you. You are in the right to stop for two or three days, at Hanau, and make your court to the Lady of that place*. Your Excellency makes a figure already

Her Royal Highness Princess Mary of England, Landgravine of Heffer a not significant at the sales a not

in the news-papers; and let them, and others, Excellency you as much as they please, but pray suffer not your own servants to do it.

Nothing new of any kind has happened here fince you went; fo I will wish you a good night, and hope that God will bless you.

L E T T E R CCCXXXIII.

Blackheath, July the 14th, 1763.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

YESTERDAY I received your letter from Ratisbon, where I am glad that you are arrived safe. You are, I find, over head and ears engaged in ceremony and étiquette. You must not yield in any thing essential, where your public character may suffer; but I advise you, at the same time, to distinguish carefully what may and what may not affect it, and to despise some German minuties; such as one step lower or higher upon the stairs, a bow more or less, and such fort of trisses.

By what I see in Cressener's letter to you, the cheapness of wine compensates the quantity, as the cheapness of servants compensates the number that you must make use of.

Write to your mother often, if it be but three words, to prove your existence; for when she does not hear from you, she knows, to a demonstration, that you are dead, if not buried.

The enclosed is a letter of the utmost consequence, which I was desired to forward, with care and speed, to the most serene Louis.

My head is not well to-day. So God bless you !

LETTER CCCXXXIVI

Blackheath, August the 1st, 1763.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Hope that by this time you are pretty well settled at Ratisbon, at least as to the important points of the ceremonial; so that you may know to precision, to whom you must give, and from whom you must require, the seine Excellentz. Those formalities are, no doubt, ridiculous enough in themselves; but yet they are necessary for manners, and sometimes for business; and both would suffer by laying them quite aside.

I have lately had an attack of a new complaint, which I have long suspected that I had in my body, in actu primo, as the pedants call it, but which I never felt in actu secundo, till last week, and that is a fit of the stone or gravel. It was, thank God, but a slight one; but it was dans toutes les formes; for it was preceded by a pain in my loins, which I at first took for some remains of my rheumatism; but was soon convinced of tny mistake, by making water much blacker than coffee, with a prodigious sediment of gravel. I am now perfectly easy again, and have no more indications of this dreadful complaint.

0 3

God keep you from that and deafness! other complaints are the common, and almost the inevitable lot of human nature, but admit of some mitigation. God bless you!

LETTER CCCXXXV.

Blackheath, August the 22d, 1763.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

OU will, by this post, hear from others, that Lord Egremont died two days ago of an apoplexy; which, from his figure, and the constant plethora he lived in, was reasonably to be expected, You will ask me, who is to be Secretary in his room? to which I answer, that I do not know. I should guess Lord Sandwich, to be succeeded in the Admiralty by Charles Townshend; unless the Duke of Bedford, who feems to have taken to himfelf the department of Europe, should have a mind to it, This event may perhaps produce others; but, till this happened, every thing was in a state of maction, and absolutely nothing was done. Before the next fession, this chaos must necessarily take some form, either by a new jumble of its own atoms, or by mixing them with the more efficient ones of the longer than either. You take for grante, noithogo

The by the news papers, as well as by your letter, that the difficulties still subsist about your ceremonial at Ratisbon; should they, from pride and folly, prove insuperable, and obstruct your real bu-

finess,

finess, there is one expedient, which may perhaps remove difficulties, and which I have often known practifed; but which I believe our people here know nothing of: it is, to have the character of Minister, only, in your oftensible title, and that of Envoy Extraordinary in your pocket, to produce occasionally, especially if you should be fent to any of the Electors in your neighbourhood! or elfe, in any transactions that you may have, in which your title of Envoy Extraordinary may create great difficulties, to have a reverfal given you, declaring, that the temporary suspension of that character, me donnera pas la moindre atteinte ni à vos droits ni à vos pretenfions. As for the rest, divert yourself as well as you can, and eat and drink as little as you can: and fo God blefs you! and towler I doine of moon

hould gued Lord Sandwich, to be fuccessful in the

His sure i Rollio son Blackheath, September the 18, 1763.

this happened, every thing we . CHAIRT RABO XM

REAT news! The King sent for Mr. Pitt, last Saturday, and the conference lasted a full hour: on the Monday following, another conference, which lasted much longer; and yesterday a third, longer than either. You take for granted, that the treaty was concluded and ratisfied: no such matter, for this last conference broke it intirely off; and Mr. Pitt and Lord Temple went yesterday evening to their respective country houses. Would you know

what it broke off upon, you must ask the news? mongers, and the coffee-houses; who, I dare say, know it all very minutely; but I, who am not apt to know any thing that I do not know, honeftly , and humbly confess, that I cannot tell you; probably one party asked too much, and the other would grant too little. However, the King's dignity was not, in my mind, much confulted, by their making him fole Plenipotentiary of a treaty, which they were not, in all events, determined to conclude. It ought furely to have been begun by fome inferior agent, and his Majesty should only have appeared in rejecting or ratifying it. Lewis the XIVth never fate down before a town in person, that was not fure to be taken. was one and report disk.

However, ce qui est disséré n'est pas perdu; for this macter must be taken up again, and concluded before the meeting of the Parliament, and probably upon more disadvantageous terms to the present Ministers, who have tacitly admitted, by this late negotiation, what their enemies have loudly proclaimed, that they are not able to carry on affairs. So much de re politica.

I have at last done the best office that can be done, to most married people; that is, I have fixed the separation between my brother and his wife; and the definitive treaty of peace will be proclaimed in about a fortnight; for the only solid and lasting peace, between a man and his wife, is, doubtless, a separation. God bless you!

MALE.

with the logated off upone you much aftering may see L E TonT EneRolliCCCXXXVII

Blackheath, September the 30th, 1763.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

VOU will have known, long before this, from the office, that the departments are not cast as you wished; for Lord Halifax, as senior, had of course his choice, and chose the Southern, upon account of the colonies. The Ministry, such as it is, is now settled en attendant mieux; but, in my opinion, cannot, as they are, meet the Parliament.

The only, and all the efficient people they have, are in the House of Lords: for since Mr. Pitt has firmly engaged Charles Townshend to him, there is not a man of the Court fide, in the House of Commons, who has either abilities or words enough to call a coach. Lord B*** is certainly playing un dessous de cartes, and I suspect that it is with Mr. Pitt; but what that deffous is, I do not know, though all the coffee-houses do most exactly.

The present inaction, I believe, gives you leisure enough for ennui, but it gives you time enough too for better things; I mean, reading useful books; and, what is still more useful, conversing with yourfelf some part of every day. Lord Shaftesbury recommends felf conversation to all authors; and I would recommend it to all men; they would be the better for it. Some people have not time, and fewer have inclination, to enter into that conversation; nay, very many dread it, and fly to the most trifling diffipations, in order to avoid it; but if a

man would allot half an hour every night, for this felf-conversation, and recapitulate with himself whatever he has done, right or wrong, in the course of the day, he would be both the better and the wifer for it. My deafness gives me more than sufficient time for self-conversation; and I have found great advantages from it. My brother, and Lady Stanhope, are at last finally parted. I was the negotiator between them; and had so much trouble in it, that I would much rather negotiate the most difficult point of the jus publicum Sacri Romani Imperii, with the whole Diet of Ratisbon, than negotiate any point with any woman. If my brother had had some of those felf-conversations, which I recommend, he would not, I believe, at past fixty, with a crazy, battered conflitution, and deaf into the bargain, have married a young girl, just turned of twenty, full of health, and confequently of defires. But who takes warning by the fate of others? This, perhaps, proceeds from a negligence of felf-conversation. God to him, and thank him to the very obligations, mid or

LETTER CCCXXXVIII.

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Blackheath, October the 17th, 1763.

received in it hade from the free I

MY DEAR FRIEND, ON DIA TENNES AND TOTAL STORE

EFFER

THE last mail brought me your letter of the 2d instant, as the former had brought me that of the 25th past. I did suppose that you would be sent for over, for the first day of the session;

as I never knew a stricter muster, and no furlows allowed. I am very forry for it, for the reasons you hint at; but, however, you did very prudently, in doing de bonne grace, what you could not help doing ; and let that be your rule in every thing, for the rest of your life. Avoid difagreeable things, as much as by dexterity you can; but when they are unavoidable, do them with feeming willingness and alacrity. Though this journey is ill-timed for you in many respects, yet, in point of finances, you will be a gainer by it upon the whole; for depend upon it, they will keep you here till the very last day of the session; and I suppose you have fold your horses, and dismissed fome of your fervants. Though they feem to apprehend the first day of the session so much, in my opinion, their danger will be much greater in the course married a young guth the tanged of the and 13 19

When you are at Paris, you will of course wait upon Lord Hertford, and defire him to preferit you to the King; at the same time make my compliments to him, and thank him for the very obliging meffage he left at my house in town; and tell him, that, had I received it in time from thence, I would have come to town on purpose to have returned it in person. If there are any new little books at Paris, pray bring them me. I have already Voltaire's Zélis dans le Bain, his Droit du Seigneur, and Olympie. Do not forget to call once at Madame Monconfeil's, and as often as you please at Madame du Pin's. Au revoir.

that of the 25th pill. I did suppose that you would be lent for over, for the first day of the lesson;

LETTER CCCXXXIX.

the establish the Translation to the word new his to

Bath, November the 24th, 1763.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Arrived here, as you suppose in your letter, last Sunday; but after the worst day's journey I ever had in my life: it snowed and froze that whole morning, and in the evening it rained and thawed, which made the roads so slippery, that I was six hours coming post from the Devizes, which is but eighteen miles from hence; so that, but for the name of coming post, I might as well have walked on foot. I have not yet quite got over my last violent attack, and am weak and slimsy.

I have now drank the waters but three days; so that, without a miracle, I cannot yet expect much alteration, and I do not in the least expect a miracle. If they proved les eaux de Jouvence to me, that would be a miracle indeed; but, as the late Pope Lambertini said, Frà noi, gli miracoli sono passati già un pezzo.

I have seen Harte, who inquired much after you: he is dejected and dispirited, and thinks himself much worse than he is, though he has really a tendency to the jaundice. I have yet seen nobody else, nor do I know who here is to be seen; for I have not yet exhibited myself to public view, except at the pump, which, at the time I go to it, is the most private place in Bath.

After all the fears and hopes, occasioned severally by the meeting of the Parliament, in my opinion,

it

ir will prove a very easy session. Mr. Wilkes is univerfally given up; and if the Ministers themselves do not wantonly raise difficulties, I think they will meet with none. A majority of two hundred is a great anodyne. Adieu! God bless you had all all'el and there is had force more

LETTER CCCXL.

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Bath, December the 3d, 1763.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

T AST post brought me your letter of the 29th paft, I suppose C--- let off his speech upon the Princess's portion, chiefly to show that he was of the Oppolition: for otherwise, the point was not debatable, unless as to the quantum, against which something might be said; for the late Princess of Orange (who was the eldest daughter of a King) had no more, and her two fifters but half, if I am not miftaken.

It is a great mercy that Mr. Wilkes, the intrepid defender of our rights and liberties, is out of danger, and may live to fight and write again in fupport of them; and it is no less a mercy, that God hath raised up the Earl of S- to vindicate and promote true religion and morality. These two bleffings will justly make an epocha in the annals of this country. se and son the was bridge

I have delivered your message to Harte, who waits with impatience for your letter. He is very happy 100

happy now in having free access to all Lord Crawen's papers, which, he says, give him great lights into the bellum tricennale; the old Lord Craven having been the professed and valorous knight-errant, and perhaps something more, to the Queen of Bohemia; at least, like Sir Peter Pride, he had the honour of spending great part of his estate in her Royal cause.

I am by no means right yet; I am very weak and flimfy still; but the Doctor assures me, that strength and spirits will return: If they do, sucro apponam, I will make the best of them; if they do not, I will not make their want still worse, by grieving and regretting them. I have lived long enough, and observed enough, to estimate most things at their intrinsic, and not their imaginary value; and at seventy, I find nothing much worth either desiring or fearing. But these resections, which suit with seventy, would be greatly premature at two-and-thirty. So make the best of your time, enjoy the present hour; but memor ultime. God bless you!

LETTER CCCXLI.

Bath, December the 18th, 1763.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

Received your letter this morning, in which you reproach me with not having written to you this week. The reason was, that I did not know what to write. There is that sameness in my life here.

MODEL SOLD

here, that every day is still but as the first. I fee very few people; and, in the literal fense of the word, I hear nothing. to the being riceway . " and t

Mr. L- and Mr. C- I hold to be two very ingenious men; and your image of the two men ruined, one by lofing his law-fuit, and the other by carrying it, is a very just one. To be fure they felt in themselves uncommon talents for business and fpeaking, which were to reimburfe them.

Harte has a great poetical work to publish, before it be long; he has shown me some parts of it. He had intitled it Emblems; but I perfuaded him to alter that name, for two reasons: the first was, because they were not emblems, but fables: the second was, that, if they had been emblems, Quarles had degraded and vilified that name, to fuch a degree, that it is impossible to make use of it after him : fo they are to be called fables, though moral tales would, in my mind, be the properest name. If you ask me what I think of those I have seen. I must fay that funt plura bona, quædam mediocria, et quædam -

Your report of future changes, I cannot think is wholly groundless: for it still runs strongly in my head, that the mine we talked of will be fprung, at, or before the end of the fession.

I have got a little more ftrength, but not quite the ftrength of Hercules; so that I will not undertake like him, fifty deflorations in one night; for I really believe that I could not compass them. So good might, and God bless you ! a bod T write, white, and well as a bod bless you ! a bod T will be will be to be

arect.

LETTER

LETTER CCCXLIN

Bath, December the 24th, 1763.

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MY DEAR FRIEND,

T Confess I was a good deal surprised at your presfing me fo strongly to influence parson Rosenhagen, when you well know the resolution I had made several years ago, and which I have scrupuloufly observed ever since, not to concern myself, directly or indirectly, in any party political contest whatfoever. Let Parties go to loggerheads, as much and as long as they please, I will neither endeavour to part them, nor take the part of either; for I know them all too well. But you fay, that Lord Sandwich has been remarkably civil and kind to you. I am very glad of it; and he can by no means impute to you my obstinacy, folly, or philofophy; call it what you please: you may with great truth affure him, that you did all you could to obey his commands.

I am forry to find that you are out of order, but I hope it is only a cold; should it be any thing more, pray consult Dr. Maty, who did you so much good in your last illness, when the great medicinal Mattadores did you rather harm. I have found a Monsieur Diasoirus here, Dr. Moisy, who has really done me a great deal of good; and I am sure I wanted it a great deal, when I came here first. I have recovered some strength, and a little more will give me as much as I can make use of.

Lady

Lady Brown, whom I faw yesterday, makes you many compliments: and I wish you a merry Christmas, and a good night. Adieu.

LETTER CCCXLIII.

Bath, December the 31ft, 1763:

MY DEAR FRIEND

GREVENKOP wrote me word, by the last post, that you were laid up with the gout; but I much question it; that is, whether it is the gout or not. Your last illness, before you went abroad, was pronounced the gout, by the skilful; and proved at last a mere rheumatism. Take care that the same mistake is not made this year; and that, by giving you strong and hot medicines to throw out the gout, they do not instame the rheumatism; if it be one:

Mr. Wilkes has imitated some of the great men of antiquity, by going into voluntary exile: it was his only way of defeating both his creditors and his profecutors. Whatever his friends, if he has any, give out of his returning soon, I will answer for it, that it will be a long time before that soon comes.

I have been much out of order these four days, of a violent cold; which I do not know how I got, and which obliged me to suspend drinking the waters: but is now so much better, that I propose resuming them for this week, and paying my court to you in town on Monday or Tuesday sevennight; but this is sub sperari only. God bless you!

Vol. IV. P LETTER

LETTER CCCXLIV.

Blackheath, July the 20th, 1764.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

LETTER

Have this moment received your letter of the 3d, from Prague, but I never received that which you mention from Ratifbon; this made me think you in fuch rapid motion, that I did not know where to take aim. I now suppose that you are arrived, though not yet fettled, ar Drefden; your audiences and formalities are, to be fure, over, and that is great ease of mind to your and it show this

I have no political events to acquaint you with; the fummer is not the feafon for them, they ripen only in winter; great ones are expected immediately before the meeting of Parliament, but that, you know, is always the language of fears and hopes. However, I rather believe that there will be fomething patched up between the ins and the outs.

The whole subject of conversation, at present, is the Death and Will of Lord Bath; he has left above twelve hundred thousand pounds in land and money: four hundred thousand pounds in cash, stocks, and mortgages; his own estate, in land, was improved to fifteen thousand pounds a year, and the Bradford restate, which he * *, is as much; both which, at wonly five and twenty years purchase, amount to eight hundred thousand pounds; and all this he has left to his brother General Pulteney, and in his own disposal, though he never loved him. I The legacies the has left are criffing, for in truth, hel cared for nobody; the words give and bequeath were too shock-

Pa

ing to him to repeat, and so he left all, in one word, to his brother. The public, which was long the dupe of his simulation and dissimulation, begins to explain upon him; and draws such a picture of him as I gave you long ago.

Your late Secretary has been with me three or four times; he wants something or another, and it seems all one to him what, whether civil or military; in plain English, he wants bread. He has knocked at the doors of some of the Ministers, but to no purpose. I wish with all my heart that I could help him: I told him fairly that I could not, but advised him to find some channel to Lord B * **, which, though a Scotchman, he told me he could not. He brought a packet of letters from the office to you, which I made him seal up; and I keep it for you, as I suppose it makes up the series of your Ratisbon letters.

As for me, I am just what I was when you left me, that is, nobody. Old-age steals upon me insensibly. I grow weak and decrepit; but do not suffer, and so I am content.

Forbes brought me four books of yours, two of which were Bielefeldt's letters, in which, to my knowledge, there are many notorious lies.

Make my compliments to Comte Einsiedel, whom I love and honour much; and so good night to seine Excellentz.

PALT

and I expect a letter from you every fortnight.

To be I will be regular on my part but write oftener

about octo-your mother, if it be but three lines.

P2 LETTER

The Range of the Cocal of the C

bewolle ad fluct rai al Blackheath, July the 27th, 1764;

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Received, two days ago, your letter of the 11th, from Dresden, where I am very glad that you are safely arrived at last. The prices of the necessaries of life are monstrous there; and I do not conceive how the poor natives subsist at all, after having been so long and so often plundered by their own as well as by other Sovereigns.

As for procuring you either the title or the appointments of Plenipotentiary, I could as foon procure them from the Turkish as from the English Ministry; and, in truth, I believe they have it not to give.

Now to come to your Civil Lift, if one may compare small things with great. I think I have found out a better refreshment for it than you propose; for to-morrow I shall send to your cashier, Mr. Larpent, sive hundred pounds at once, for your use, which, I presume, is better than by quarterly payments; and I am very apt to think, that, next Mid-summer-day, he will have the same sum, and for the same use, consigned to him.

It is reported here, and I believe not without some foundation, that the Queen of Hungary has acceded to the Family Compact between France and Spain; if so, I am sure it behoves us to form in time a counter alliance, of at least equal strength; which I could easily point out, but which, I fear, is not thought of here.

The

The rage of marrying is very prevalent; so that there will be probably a great crop of cuckolds next winter, who are at present only cacus en berbe. It will contribute to population, and so far must be allowed to be a public benefit. Lord G—, Mr. B—, and Mr. D——, are, in this respect, very meritorious; for they have all married handsome women, without one shilling fortune. Lord —— must indeed take some pains to arrive at that dignity; but I dare say he will bring it about, by the help of some young Scotch or Irish Officer. Good night, and God bless you!

L E T T E R CCCXLVI.

Blackheath, September the 3d, 1764.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Have received your letter of the 13th past. I fee that your complete arrangement approaches, and you need not be in a hurry to give entertainments, since so sew others do.

Comte Flemming is the man in the world the best calculated to retrieve the Saxon finances, which have been all this century squandered and lavished with the most absurd profusion: he has certainly abilities, and, I believe, integrity; I dare answer for him, that the gentleness and slexibility of his temper will not prevail with him to yield to the importunities of craving and petulant applications. I see in him another Sully; and therefore I wish he were at the head of our finances.

France and Spain both infult us, and we take it too tamely: for this is, in my opinion, the time for us to talk high to them. France, I am perfuaded, will not quarrel with us, till it has got a Navy at least equal to ours, which cannot be these three or four years, at soonest; and then indeed, I believe, we shall hear of something or other; therefore, this is the moment for us to speak loud, and we shall be feared, if we do not show that we fear.

Here is no domeffic news of changes and chances in the political world; which, like oysters, are only in season in the R months, when the Parliament sits. I think there will be some then, but of what kind, God knows.

I have received a book for you, and one for myfelf, from Harte. It is upon agriculture, and will
furprise you, as, I confess, it did me. This work is
not only in English, but good and elegant English;
he has even scattered graces upon his subject; and,
in prose, has come very near Virgil's Georgies in
verse. I have written to him, to congratulate his
happy transformation. As soon as I can find an opportunity, I will send you your copy. You (though
no Agricola) will read it with pleasure.

delle, sed cave residural evous saint entires le session

Make mine and Lady Chefterfield's compliments to Comte et Comtesse Flemming: and so, Dieu vous ait en sa sainte garde! Parts and so valed words of the complete state of the com

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deration.

CCCXLVII LETTER

Blackheath, September the 14th, 1764. MY DEAR FRIEND,

VESTERDAY I received your letter of the 30th past, by which I find that you had not then got mine, which I fent you the day after I had received your former; you have had no great loss of it; for, as I told you in my last, this inactive season of the year supplies no materials for a letter; the winter may, and probably will, produce an abundant crop, but of what grain, I neither know, guess, nor care. I take it for granted, that Lord B * * * furnagera encore, but by the affiftance of what bladders or cork-waiftcoats, God only knows. The death of poor Mr. Legge, the epileptic fits of the Duke of Devonshire, for which he is gone to Aix-la-Chapelle, and the advanced age of the Duke of Newcastle, feem to facilitate an accommodation, if Mr. Pitt and Lord Bute are inclined to it. women and

You ask me what I think of the death of poor Iwan, and of the person who ordered it. You may remember that I often faid, she would murder or marry him, or probably both; she has chosen the fafest alternative; and has now completed her character of femme forte, above scruples and hesitation. If Machiavel were alive, the would probably be his Heroine, as Cefar Borgia was his Hero. Women are all so far Machiavelians, that they are never either good or bad by halves; their passions are too strong, and their reason too weak, to do any thing with mo-P 4

SHIP THE

deration. She will perhaps, meet, before it is long, with some Scythian as free from prejudices as herself. If there is one Oliver Cromwell in the three regiments of guards, he will probably, for the sake of his dear country, depose and murder her; for that is one and the same thing in Russia.

You feem now to be settled, and bien nippé at Dresden. Four sedentary sootmen, and one running one, font Equipage leste. The German ones will give you, seine Excellentz; and the French ones, if you have any, Monseigneur.

My own health varies, as usual, but never deviates into good. God bless you, and send you better!

to France and Spain spain, indeed, has larely agreed to ude cutting logwood, according to the

allow it's but you will observe too, that there is not

bentativity lates we lately the the 4th, 1764.

Have now your last letter, of the 16th past, lying before me; and I gave your enclosed to Grevenkop, which has put him into a violent bustle to exercite cute your commissions, as well and as cheap as possible. I refer him to his own letter. He tells you at true, as to Comtesse Cosel's diamonds, which ceritainly nobody will buy here, unsight unseen, as they call it: so many minuties concurring, to encrease or collessent the value of a diamond. Your Cheshire cheese, your Burton ale and beer, I charge myself with, and on they shall be sent you as soon as possible. Upon this me occasion I will give you a piece of advice, which by the experience

experience I know to be useful of In all commissions. whether from men of women, point de galanterie. bring them in your account, and be paid to the unermost farthing , but if you would show them une galanterie, let your present be of fomething that is not in your commission, otherwise you will be the Commissionaire band of all the women of Saxony. A propos; Who is your Comtelle de Cofel? Is the daughter, or grand-daughter, of the famous Madame de Cofel, in King Augustus's time? Is she young or old, ugly or handsome?

I do not wonder that people are wonderfully furprised at our tameness and forbearance, with regard to France and Spain. Spain, indeed, has lately agreed to our cutting logwood, according to the treaty, and fent strict orders to their Governor to allow it; but you will observe too, that there is not one word of reparation for the loffes we lately fultained there. But France is not even fo tractable: it will pay but half the money due, upon a liquidated account, for the maintenance of their prisoners. Our request, to have Comte d'Estaing recalled and cenfured, they have absolutely rejected, though, by the laws of war, he might be hanged for having twice broke his parole. This does not do France honour however, I think we shall be quiet, and that at the only time, perhaps this century, when we might, with fafety, be otherwife; but this is nothing new, nor the first time, by many, when national honour and interest have been facrificed to private. It has always been to: and one may fay, upon this occasion, experience what

what Horace says upon another, Nam fuit ante

I have feen les Contes de Guillaume Vadé, and like most of them so little, that I can hardly think them Voltaire's, but rather the scraps that have fallen from his table, and been worked up by inferior workmen, under his name. I have not seen the other book you mention, the Distinnaire Portatif. It is not yet come over.

I shall next week go to take my winter-quarters in London, the weather here being very cold and damp, and not proper for an old, shattered, and cold carcase, like mine. In November I will go to the Bath, to careen myself for the winter, and to shift the scene. Good night,

dred persents, for which wastewere allowed nothing; and that and that are the same and the same and the same are the same and the same are the same and the same are the same

their, and butto the expense tot where for four hun-

Looper the 19th, 1764, well do Looper the 19th, 1764,

MY DEAR FRIEND, nogli , mileb ved navojeda

KETTER

FSTERDAY morning Mr, * came to me, from Lord Halifax, to ask me whether I thought you would approve of vacating your seat in Parliament, during the remainder of it, upon a valuable consideration, meaning maney. My answer was, that I really did not know your disposition upon that subject; but that I knew you would be very willing, in general, to accommodate them, as far as lay in your power. That your Election, to my knowledge, had cost you two thousand pounds; that this Parlia-

ment

ment had not fate above half its time; and that, for my part, I approved of the measure well enough, provided you had an equitable equivalent. I take it for granted, that you will have a letter from by this post, to that effect, so that you must consider what you will do. What I advise, is this give them a good deal of Galbanum in the first part of your letter. Le Galbanum ne coute rien; and then fav. that you are willing to do as they please; but that you hope an equitable confideration will be had to the two thousand pounds, which your feat cost you in the present Parliament, of which not above half the term is expired. Moreover, that you take the liberty to remind them, that your being fent for from Ratisbon, last session, when you were just settled there, put you to the expence of three or four hundred pounds, for which you were allowed nothing; and that, therefore, you hope they will not think one thousand pounds too much, considering all these circumstances; but that, in all events, you will do whatever they defire. Upon the whole, I think this proposal advantageous to you, as you probably vill not make use of your seat this Parliament; and further, as it will feeure you from another unpaid journey from Dresden, in case they meet, or fear to meet with difficulties in any enfuing leffion of the prefent Parliament. Whatever one must do, one should do de bonne grace. Dixi. God blefs you! in general, it accommodate them, as far as lay in

That your bledlon, to my housedge,

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had coft you two thoutand pounds or that the Pacha-

your power.

one, has been made you, and which, in the main, L E T T EIGROS CCCL.vergus

-15d voy best band, and read you bet-Adrens

MY DEAR FRIEND.

Am much concerned at the account you gave me of yourself, in your last letter. There is to be fure, at fuch a town as Drefden, at least some one very skilful physician; whom I hope you have confuleed, and I would have you acquaint him with all your feveral attacks of this nature, from your great one at Laubach, to your late one at Drefden: tell him too, that, in your last illness in England, the physicians mistook your case, and treated it as the gout, till Maty came, who treated it as a rheumatifm, and cured you. In my own opinion, you have never had the gout, but always the rheumatism; which, to my knowledge, is as painful as the gout can postibly be, and should be treated in a quite different way; that is, by cooling medicines and regimen, instead of those inflammatory cordials which they always administer, where they suppose the gout, to keep it, as they fay, out of the stomach. I had not also

Thave been here now just a week; but have hitherto drank to little of the water, that I can neither freak well not ill of it. The number of people in this place is infinite; but very few whom I know, Harre feems fettled here for life. He is not well, that is certain; but not fo ill neither as he thinks himself, or at least would be thought, and amin drive

I long for your answer to my last letter, containing a certain propolal, which by this time, I fup. pole,

God bless you, my dear friend, and send you better health! Adieu.

Am much concerned allthe account you gave me

fure, at 14333 own R E (dr. ar lead lone one very fallful physician; whom I hope you have con-

the mily mid quinupose London, February the 26th, 126g.

of woundly in your land enter the

your feveral attacks of this nat dialas RADE YM

pleasure as your former had given me as much pleasure as your former had given me unessing ness; and Larpent's acknowledgment of his negligence frees you from those suspicions, which I own I did entertain, and which I believe every one would in the same concurrence of circumstances, have entertained. So much for that, as at appeal your or

You may depend upon what I promised you, be-

All I can say of the affair between you of the Corps Diplomatique, and the Saxon Ministers, is, gut will most certainly be soon made up; and in that negotiation show yourself as moderate and healing as your instructions from hence will allow, especially to Comte Flemming. The King of Prussia, I believe, has a mind to insult him personally, as an old enemy, or else to quarrel with Saxony, that dares not quarrel with him; but some of the Corps Diplomatique here assure me, it is only a pretence to recall his Envoy, and to send, when matters shall be made up, a little

Secretary there, a moins de fraix, as he does now to Paris and London was and treatment and lastwagener

Comte Brühl is much in fashion here: I like him mightily; he has very much le ton de la bonne compagnie. Poor Schrader died last Saturday, without the least pain or sickness. God bless you!

without whom you my own opinion of it by the

The state of the s

freds beisene Statile to London, April the 22d, 176g.

rives indexistagrecable strike a Compara RABA XM

HE day before yesterday I received your letter of the 3d instant. I find that your important affair of the Ceremonial is adjusted at last, as I foresaw it would be. Such minuties are often laid hold on as a pretence, for Powers who have a mind to quarrel; but are never tenaciously infifted upon, where there is neither interest nor inclination to break. Comte Flemming, though a hot, is a wife man, and I was fure, would not break both with England and Hanover, upon fo trifling a point, especially during a minority. A propos of a minority, the King is to come to the House to-morrow, to recommend a bill to settle a Regency, in case of his demise while his fuccessor is a minor. Upon the King's late illness, which was no trifling one, the whole nation cried out aloud for fuch a bill, for reasons which will readily occur to you, who know fituations, perfons, and characters here; A do not know the particulars of this intended bill; but I wish it may be copied ex-Better The

actly from that which was passed in the lare King's time, when the present King was a minorus Irain sure there cannot be a better, aim at Idial 20000

You inquire about Monfieur de Guerchy's affair; and I will give you as fuccinct an account as I can, of fo extraordinary and perplexed a transaction; but without giving you my own opinion of it, by the common post. You know what passed at first between Mr. de Guerchy and Monsieur D'Eon, in which, both our Ministers and Monlieur de Guerchy, from utter inexperience in bufiness, puzzled themselves into disagreeable difficulties. About three or four months ago, Monsieur du Vergy published in a brochure, a parcel of letters, from himself to the Duc de Choifeul; in which he positively afferts, that Monfieur de Guerchy prevailed with him (Vergy) to come over into England to affaffinate D'Eon; the words are, as well as I remember, one ce n'étoit pas pour se servir de sa Plume, mais de son Epée, qu'on le demandoit en Angleterre. This accusation of affaffination, you may imagine, shocked Monfieur de Guerchy, who complained bitterly to our Ministers; and they both puzzled on for some time, without doing any thing, because they did not know what to do. At last du Vergy, about two months ago, applied himfelf to the Grand Jury of Middlefex, and made oath, that Mr. de Guerchy had hired him w(du Vergy) to affaffinate D'Eon. Upon this deposition, the Grand Jury found would of intended murder against Monsieur de Guerchy; which bill however, hever came to the Perty Jury. actly The

The King granted a noli prosequi in favour of Monfieur de Guerchy; and the Attorney General is actually prosecuting du Vergy. Whether the King can grant a noli prosequi in a criminal case, and whether le Droit des gens extends to criminal cases, are two points which employ our domestic politicians, and the whole Corps Diplomatique. Ensin, to use a very coarse and vulgar saying, il y'a de la merde au bout du bâton, quesque part.

I see and hear these storms from shore, surve mari magno, &c. I enjoy my own security and tranquillity, together with better health than I had reason to expect at my age, and with my constitution: however, I seel a gradual decay, though a gentle one; and I think that I shall not tumble, but slide gently to the bottom of the hill of life. When that will be, I neither know nor care, for I am very weary. God bless you!

Mallet died, two days ago, of a diarrhoea, which he had carried with him to France, and brought back again hither.

Montant de Constant, who were talled the mannel

LETTER CCCLHI.

Blackheath, July the 2d, 1765?

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Have this moment received your letter of the 22d past; and I delayed answering your former, in daily, or rather hourly expectation of informing you of the birth of a new Ministry; but in vain; for,

after a thousand conferences, all things remain still in the state which I described to you in my last. Lord S. has, I believe, given you a pretty true account of the present state of things; but my Lord is much mistaken, I am persuaded, when he says, that the King bas thought proper to re-establish his old servants in the management of his assairs; for he shows them all the public dislike possible; and, at his levee, hardly speaks to any of them; but speaks by the hour to any body else. Conferences, in the mean time, go on, of which it is easy to guess the main subject, but impossible, for me at least, to know the particulars; but this I will venture to prophesy, that the whole will soon center in Mr. Pitt.

You feem not to know the character of the Queen: here it is—She is a good woman, a good wife, a tender mother; and an unmeddling Queen. The King loves her as a woman; but, I verily believe, has never yet spoken one word to her about business. I have now told you all that I know of these affairs; which, I believe, is as much as any body else knows, who is not in the secret. In the mean time, you easily guess, that surmises, conjectures, and reports, are infinite; and if, as they say, truth is but one, one million at least of these reports must be false; for they differ exceedingly.

You have lost an honest servant, by the death of poor Loss; I would advise you to take a clever young Saxon in his room, of whose character you may get authentic testimonies; instead of sending for

Vot. IV.

one to France, whose character you can only know from far.

When I hear more, I will write more; till when, God blefs you incoming and all the same and the

LETTER CCCLIV.

This daily life will meet three property of ach center

Blackheath, July the 15th, 1765.

MY DEAR FRIEND, Long , modern D Washell and

I Told you in my last, that you should hear from me again, as soon as I had any thing more to write; and now I have too much to write, therefore will refer you to the Gazette, and the office letters, for all that has been done; and advise you to suspend your opinion, as I do, about all that is to be done. Many more changes are talked of; but so idly, and variously, that I give credit to none of them. There has been pretty clean sweeping already; and I do not remember, in my time, to have seen so much at once, as an intire new Board of Treasury, and two new Secretaries of State, cum multis aliis, &c.

Here is a new political arch almost built, but of materials of so different a nature, and without a key-stone, that it does not, in my opinion, indicate either strength or duration. It will certainly require repairs, and a key-stone, next winter; and that key-stone will, and must necessarily be Mr. Pitt. It is true, he might have been that key-stone now; and would have accepted it, but not without Lord Temple's consent; and Lord Temple positively, refused.

fuled. There was evidently some trick in this, but what, is past my conjecturing. Davus fum non Oedi-. will be God lenous, Were I to wineflure, I through

There is a manifest interregnum in the Treasury for I do suppose that Lord Rockingham and Mr. Dowdefwell will not think proper to be very active. General Conway, who is your Secretary, has certainly parts at least equal to his business, to which I dare fay he will apply. The fame may be faid, I believe. of the Duke of Grafton; and indeed there is no magic requifite for the executive part of those employments. The ministerial part is another thing; they must scramble with their fellow-servants, for power and favour, as well as they can. Foreign affairs are not fo much as mentioned, and, I verily believe, not thought of. But, furely, fome counterbalance would be necessary to the Family Compact; and, if not foon contracted, will be too late. God bless you!

LETTER CCCLV.

Blackheath, August the 17th, 1765.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

TOU are now two letters in my debe; and I fear the gout has been the cause of your contracting that debt. When you are not able to write yourfelf, let your Secretary fend me two or three lines, to acquaint me how you are.

You have now feen, by the London Gazette, what changes have really been made at Court; but, at the 7.00 Q 2

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LETTER CCCLIV.

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fame

fame time, I believe you have feen that there must be more, before a Ministry can be settled; what those will be, God knows. Were I to conjecture, I should say, that the whole will center, before it is long, in Mr. Pitt and C°, the present being an heterogeneous jumble of youth and caducity, which cannot be efficient.

Charles Townshend calls the present, a Lutestring Ministry; fit only for the summer. The next session will be not only a warm, but a violent one, as you will easily judge, if you look over the names of the ins and of the outs.

I feel this beginning of the autumn, which is already very cold: the leaves are withered, fall apace, and feem to intimate that I must follow them; which I shall do without reluctance, being extremely weary of this filly world. God bless you, both in it and after it!

LETTER CCCLVI.

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Blackbeath, August the 25th, 1765, MY DEAR FRIEND.

demograph insenses to be

Received but four days ago your letter of the 2d instant. I find by it that you are well, for you are in good spirits. Your notion of the new birth, or regeneration of the Ministry, is a very just one; and that they have not yet the true seal of the covenant, is, I dare say, very true; at least, it is not in the possession of either of the Secretaries of State, who have

20002

only the King's feal; nor do I believe (whatever his Grace may imagine) that it is even in the possession of the Lord Privy Seal. I own I am loft; in confidering the present situation of affairs; different conjectures present themselves to my mind, but none that it can rest upon. The next session must necessarily clear up matters a good deal; for I believe it will be the warmest and most acrimonious one that has been known, fince that of the Excife. The late Ministry, the present Opposition, are determined to attack Lord B-publicly in Parliament, and reduce the late Opposition, the present Ministry, to protect him publicly, in confequence of their supposed treaty with him. En attendant mieux, the paper war is carried on with much fury and fournility on all fides, to the great entertainment of fuch lazy and impartial people as myfelf. I do not know whether you have the Daily Advertiser and the Public Advertiser; in which all the political letters are inferted, and fome very well-written ones on both fides; but I know that they amuse me, tant bien que mal, for an hour or two every morning. Lord T is the supposed author of the pamphlet you mention; but I think it is above him. Perhaps his brother C T , who is by no means fatisfied with the present arrangement, may have affifted him privately. As to this latter, there was a good ridiculous paragraph in the news-papers, two or three days ago : We bear that the Right Honourable Mr. G -- is indisposed, at his house in Oxfordsbire, of a pain in his side; but it is not said in which fide, I div dit a mineral gut

I do not find that the Duke of York has yet visited you; if he should, it may be expensive, mais on trouvera maion. As for the Lady, if you should be very sharp set for some English stesh. She has it amply in her power to supply you, if she pleases. Pray tell me in your next, what you think of Tand how you like Prince Henry of Prussia. God bless you in

LETTER CCCLVII.

the warmedt and most accimumate

MY DEAR FRIEND, A TONG SELECTION OF THE MODIFICACION

I take to be a very just one, lowers the King of Prussia's a great deal; and probably that is the cause of their being so ill together. But the King of Prussia, with his good parts, should restect upon that trite and true maxim, Qui invidet minor, or Mr. de la Rochesoucault's, Que l'envie est la plus basse da toutes les passions, puisqu'en avoue bien des crimes, mais que personne n'avoue l'envie. I thank God, I never was sensible of that dark and vile passion, except that formerly I have sometimes envied a successful rival with a fine woman. But now that cause is ceased, and consequently the effects.

What shall I, or rather what can I tell you of the political world here? The late Ministers accuse the present with having done nothing; the present accuse the late ones with having done much worse than nothing. Their writers abuse one another must scurrilously, but sometimes with wit. I look upon this

this to be peloter en attendant partie, till battle begins in St. Stephen's Chapel. How that will end, I protest I cannot conjecture; any farther than this, that, if Mr. Pitt does not come in to the affiftance of the present Ministers, they will have much to do. to stant their ground. C- T- will play booty; and whom elfe have they? No body but C-; who has only good fense, but not the neceffary talents nor experience, Ære ciere viros martemque accendere cantu. I never remember, in all my time, to have feen so problematical a state of affairs; and a man would be much puzzled which fide to bet on

Your guest, Miss C-, is another problem which I cannot folve. She no more wanted the waters of Carlibadt, than you did. Is it to show the Duke of K-, that he cannot live without her? A dangerous experiment! which may possibly convince him that he can. There is a trick, no doubt, in it; but what, I neither know nor care; you did very well to show her civilities, cela ne gâte jamais rien. I will go to my waters, that is, the Bath waters, in three weeks or a month, more for the fake of bathing than of drinking. The hot bath always promotes my perspiration, which is sluggifh, and supples my stiff rheumatic limbs. D'ailleurs, I am at present as well, and better than I could reafonably expect to be, anno septuagesimo primo. May you be fo as long, y mas. God bless you! top I will have a few to the surface of the few tops of the fe

of literal to should be my stated and an eight E T T E R CCCLVIII.

London, October the 25th, 1765;

MY DEAR FRIEND,

early applying then

Received your letter of the 10th sonica; for I fet out for Bath to-morrow morning. If the ufe of those waters does me no good, the shifting the scene for some time will at least amuse me a little; and at my age, and with my infirmities, il faut faire de tout bois flèche. Some variety is as necessary for the mind, as fome medicines are for the body.

Here is a total stagnation of politics, which, I suppose, will continue till the Parliament sits to do business, and that will not be till about the middle of January; for the meeting on the 17th December is only for the fake of some new writs. The late Ministers threaten the present ones; but the latter do not feem in the least afraid of the former, and for a very good reason, which is, that they have the diffribution of the loaves and fishes. I believe it is very certain that Mr. Pitt will never come into this or any other Administration; he is absolutely a cripple all the year, and in violent pain at least half of it. Such physical ills are great checks to two of the strongest passions, to which human nature is liable, love and ambition. Though I cannot persuade myself that the present Ministry can be long-lived, I can as little imagine, who or what can succeed them, telle est la disette de sujets Papables. The Duke of --- fwears, that he will have Lord perfonally LETTER

personally attacked in both Houses, but I do not see how, without endangering himself at the same time to an armine soo vendend a

Miss C— is safely arrived here, and her Duke is fonder of her than ever. It was a dangerous experiment that she tried, in leaving him so long; but it seems she knew her man.

I pity you, for the inundation of your good countrymen, which overwhelms you; je ffai ce qu'en vout l'aune. It is, besides, expensive; but, as I look upon the expence to be the least evil of the two, I will see if a New-year's gift will not make it up.

As I am now upon the wing, I will only add, God blefs you! Too bin done you was a day and led

L'E T TER CCCLIX.

has been a ringress of host of

Bath, November the 18th, 1765.

one as is often fully feed; as and

MY DEAR FRIEND, AND TO A PROBLEM TONI

I Have this moment received your letter of the 10th, I have now been here near a month, bathing and drinking the waters, for complaints much of the same kind as yours; I mean pains in my legs, hips, and arms; whether gouty or rheumatic, God knows; but, I believe, both, that fight without a decision in favour of either, and have absolutely reduced me to the miserable situation of the Sphynx's riddle, to walk upon three legs; that is, with the assistance of my stick, to walk, or rather hobble, very indifferently. I wish it were a declared

declared gout, which is the distemper of a gentles man; whereas the rheumatism is the distemper of a hackney-coachman or chairman, who are obliged to be out in all weathers and at all hours.

I think you will do very right to ask leave, and I dare say you will easily get it, to go to the baths in Suabia; that is, supposing you have consulted some skilful physician, if such a one there be, either at Dresden or at Leipsic, about the nature of your distemper, and the nature of those baths; but, such quisque patimur manes. We have but a bad bargain, God knows, of this life, and patience is the only way not to make bad worse. Mr. Pitt keeps his bed here, with a very real gout, and not a political one as is often suspected.

Here has been a congress of most of the ex Ministres. If they have raised a battery, as I suppose they have, it is a masked one, for nothing has transpired; only they confess, that they intend a most vigorous attack. D'ailleurs, there seems to be a total suspension of all business, till the meeting of the Parliament, and then Signa canant. I am very glad that, at this time, you are out of it: and for reasons that I need not mention: you would certainly have been sent for over, and, as before, not paid for your journey.

Poor Harte is very ill, and condemned to the Hot-well at Briftol. He is a better poer than philosopher; for all this illness and melancholy proceeds originally from the ill success of his Gustavus Adolphus. He is grown extremely devout, which

I I am

I am very glad of, because that is always a confort to the afflicted and between the aminoral sayed

I cannot present Mr. Larpent with my News year's gift, till I come to town, which will be bes fore Christmas at farthest; till when, God bless you let Adieus berend one tend as boundles a.

confidenced rangement of black I doldwidges of ade myster diological accompany to the deep figure

A do not the van of the Garage civen any recom-LETTER CCCLX.

Type that ele Timee of Brildhank's riband is a

Altrofon an any sparker the notional dock.

London, December the 27th, 1765.

MY DEAR FRIEND (10 100000) Shift sit

I Arrived here from Bath last Monday, rather, but not much better than when I went thither. My rheumatic pains, in my legs and hips, plague me still; and I must never expect to be quite free from them. A with White L. mislenders 40 . spix

You have, to be fure, had from the office an account of what the Parliament did, or rather did not do, the day of their meeting : and the fame point will be the great object at their next meeting. I mean, the affair of our American Colonies, relatively to the late imposed Stamp-duty; which our collonifts absolutely refuse to pay. The Administration are for some indulgence and forbearance to those froward children of their mother country: the Opposition are for taking vigorous, as they call them, but I call them violent measures; not less than les dragonades; and to have the tax collected by

by the troops we have there. For my part, I never faw a froward child mended by whipping: and I would not have the mother country become a stepmother. Our trade to America brings in, communibus annis, two millions a year; and the Stamp-duty is estimated at but one hundred thousand pounds a year; which I would by no means bring into the stock of the Exchequer, at the loss, or even the risk of a million a year to the national stock.

I do not tell you of the Garter, given away yesterday, because the news-papers will; but I must obferve, that the Prince of Brunswick's riband is a mark of great distinction to that family; which, I believe, is the first (except our own Royal family) that has ever had two blue ribands at a time; but it must be owned they deserve them.

One hears of nothing now, in town, but the feparation of men and their wives. Will Finch the ex-vice Chamberlain, Lord Warwick, and your friend Lord Bolingbroke. I wonder at none of them for parting; but I wonder at many for still living together; for in this country, it is certain, that marriage is not well understood.

I have this day fent Mr. Larpent two hundred pounds for your Christmas-box, of which I suppose he will inform you by this post. Make this Christmas as merry a one as you can; for pour le peu de bon tems qui nous reste, rien n'est si suneste qu'un noir chagrin. For the new years, God send you many, and happy ones! Adieu.

LETTER CCCLXI.

London, February the 11th, 1766.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I Received, two days ago, your letter of the 25th past; and your former, which you mention in it, but ten days ago; this may easily be accounted for from the badness of the weather, and consequently of the roads. I hardly remember so severe a winter; it has occasioned many illnesses here. I am sure it pinched my crazy carcase so much, that, about three weeks ago, I was obliged to be let blood twice in four days; which I found afterwards was very necessary, by the relief it gave to my head, and to the rheumatic pains in my limbs; and from the execrable kind of blood which I lost.

Perhaps you expect from me a particular account of the present state of affairs here; but, if you do, you will be disappointed; for no man living (and I still less than any one) knows what it is; it varies, not only daily, but hourly. Most people think, and I amongst the rest, that the date of the present Ministers is pretty near out; but how soon we are to have a new style, God knows. This, however, is certain, that the Ministers had a contested election in the House of Commons, and got it but by eleven votes; too small a majority to carry any thing: the next day they loft a question in the House of Lords, by three. The question in the House of Lords was, to enforce the execution of the Stamp-act in the Colonies vi et armis. What conclusions you will draw dadlons

draw from these premises, I do not know: I protest I draw none; but only stare at the present undecypherable state of affairs, which, in sifty years experience, I have never seen any thing like. The Stampact has proved a most pernicious measure; for, whether it is repealed or not, which is still very doubtful, it has given such terror to the Americans, that our trade with them will not be, for some years, what it used to be. Great numbers of our manufacturers at home will be turned a starving, for want of that employment, which our very prostable trade to America sound them: and hunger is always the cause of turnults and sedition.

As you have escaped a fit of the gout in this fevere cold weather, it is to be hoped you may be intirely free from it, till next winter at least.

P. S. Lord —, having parted with his wife, now keeps another w—e, at a great expence. I fear he is totally undone.

LETTER CCCLXII.

London, March the 17th, 1766.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

YOU wrong me, in thinking me in your debt; for I never receive a letter of yours, but I answer it by the next post, or the next but one, at farthest: but I can easily conceive that my two last letters to you may have been drowned or frozen in their way; for portents, and prodigies of frost, snow, and inundations,

flations, have been so frequent this winter, that they have almost lost their names.

You tell me that you are going to the baths of Baden; but that puzzles me a little, fo I recommend this letter to the care of Mr. Larpent, to forward to you; for Baden I take to be the general German word for baths, and the particular ones are diffinguished by some epithet, as Weissbaden, Carlsbaden, &c. I hope they are not cold baths, which I have a very ill opinion of, in all arthritic or rheumatic cases; and your case I take to be a compound of both, but rather more of the latter.

You will probably wonder that I tell you nothing of public matters, upon which I shall be as fecret as Hotspur's gentle Kate, who would not tell what fhe did not know; but, what is fingular, nobody feems to know any more of them than I do. People gape, stare, conjecture, and refine. Changes of the Ministry, or in the Ministry, at least, are daily reported and foretold; but of what kind, God only knows. It is also very doubtful whether Mr. Pitt will come into the Administration or not; the two present Secretaries are extremely defirous that he flould: but the others think of the horse that called the man to its affiftance. I will fay nothing to you about American affairs, because I have not pens, ink, or paper enough to give you an intelligible account of them. They have been the subjects of warm and acrimonious debates, both in the Lords and Cornmons, and in all companies.

The repeal of the Stamp-act is at last carried through. I am glad of it, and gave my proxy for it; because I saw many more inconveniencies from the enforcing, than from the repealing it.

Colonel Browne was with me the other day, and affured me that he left you very well. He faid that he faw me at Spa, but I did not remember him; though I remember his two brothers, the Colonel and the ravisher, very well. Your Saxon Colonel has the brogue exceedingly. Present my respects to Count Flemming; I am very forry for the Countess's illness; she was a most well-bred woman.

You would hardly think that I gave a dinner to the Prince of Brunswick, your old acquaintance. I am glad it is over; but I could not avoid it. Il m'avoit accablé de politesses. God bless you!

LETTER CCCLXIII.

Mirish , ociation billion of the light aid half reported

supprise and leging. Clarines of the

Blackheath, June the 13th, 1766;

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I Received, yesterday, your letter of the 30th past. I waited with impatience for it, not having received one from you of six weeks; nor your mother neither, who began to be very sure that you were dead, if not buried. You should write to her once a week, or at least once a fortnight; for women make no allowance for either business or laziness; whereas I can, by experience, make allowances for both: however.

however, I wish you would generally write to me once a fortnight.

Last week I paid my Midsummer offering, of five hundred pounds, to Mr. Larpent, for your use, as I suppose he has informed you. I am punctual, you must allow.

What account shall I give you of, Ministerial affairs here? I protest I do not know: your own description of them is as exact a one as any I, who am upon the place, can give you. It is a total diflocation and dérangement; consequently, a total inefficiency. When the Duke of Grafton quitted the feals, he gave that very reason for it, in a speech in the House of Lords: he declared, that he bad no objection to the persons or to the measures of the present Ministers; but that he thought they wanted strength and efficiency to carry on proper measures with success; and that be knew but one man (meaning, as you will easily suppose, Mr. Pitt) who could give them that strength and folidity; that under this person, be should be willing to serve in any capacity, not only as a General Officer, but as a pioneer; and would take up a spade and a mattock. When he quitted the feals, they were offered first to Lord Egmont, then to Lord Hardwicke; who both declined them, probably for the fame reasons that made the Duke of Grafton relign them: but, after their going a begging for fome time, the Duke of begged them, and has them faute de mieux. Lord Mountstuart was never thought of for Vienna, where Lord Stormont returns in three months: the former is going to be married to one of the Miss Windfors, VOL. IV. a grea

a great fortune. To tell you the speculations, the reasonings, and the conjectures, either of the uninformed, or even of the best-informed public, upon the present wonderful situation of affairs, would take up much more time and paper than either you or I can afford, though we have neither of us a great deal of business at present.

I am in as good health as I could reasonably expect, at my age, and with my shattered carcase; that is, from the waist upwards: but downwards it is not the same; for my limbs retain that stiffness and debility of my long rheumatism, I cannot walk half an hour at a time. As the autumn, and still more as the winter approaches, take care to keep yourself very warm, especially your legs and seet.

Lady Chefterfield fends you her compliments, and triumphs in the fuccess of her plaster. God bless you!

narobecond ricy thould exerber with fome of their Anarch Town Reance Town

rat vino 1 and seroil Blackheath, July the 11th, 1766.

what I wish , whereas he took , drain TRABE YM in

YOU are a happy mortal, to have your time thus employed between the Great and the Fair; I hope you do the honours of your country to the latter. The Emperor, by your account, feems to be very well for an Emperor; who, by being above the other Monarchs in Europe, may justly be supposed to have had a proportionably worse education. I find, by your account of him, that he has been trained up

to homicide, the only science in which Princes are ever instructed; and with good reason, as their greatness and glory singly depend upon the numbers of their fellow-creatures, which their ambition exterminates. If a Sovereign should, by great accident, deviate into moderation, justice, and clemency, what a contemptible figure would he make in the catalogue of Princes! I have always owned a great regard for King Log. From the interview at Torgaw, between the two Monarchs, they will be either a great deal better, or worse together; but I think rather the latter l'for our namesake, Philip de Comines, observes, that he never knew any good come from l'abouchement des Rois. The King of Prussia will exert all his perspicacity, to analyse his Imperial Majesty; and I would bet upon the one head of his Black Eagle, against the two heads of the Austrian Eagle; though two heads are faid, proverbially, to be better than one. I wish I had the direction of both the Monarchs, and they should, together with some of their Allies, take Lorraine and Alface from France. You will call me l'Abbé de St. Pierre; but I only fay what I wish; whereas he thought every thing that he wished practicable. Javon gine

Now to come home. Here are great buftles at Court, and a great change of persons is certainly very hear. You will ask me, perhaps, who is to be out, and who is to be in ? To which I answer, I do not know. My conjecture is, that, be the new fettlement what it will, Mr. Pitt will be at the head of it. If he is, I presume qu'il aura mis de l'Eau dans son Vin

par rapport à Mylord B—, when that shall come to be known, as known it certainly will soon be, he may bid adieu to his popularity. A Minister, as Minister, is very apt to be the object of public dislike; and a Favourite, as Favourite, still more so. If any event of this kind happens, which (if it happens at all) I conjecture will be some time next week, you shall hear farther from me.

I will follow your advice, and be as well as I can next winter, though I know I shall never be free from my flying rheumatic pains, as long as I live; but whether that will be many years or few is extremely indifferent to me: in either case, God bless you!

LETTER CCCLXV.

Blackheath, August the 1st, 1766.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

The curtain was at last drawn up, the day before yesterday, and discovered the new actors, together with some of the old ones. I do not name them to you, because to-morrow's Gazette will do it sull as well as I could. Mr. Pitt, who had carte blanche given him, named every one of them: but what would you think he named himself for? Lord Privy Seal; and (what will astonish you, as it does every mortal here) Earl of Chatham. The joke here is, that he has had a fall up stairs, and has done himself so much hurt, that he will never be able to stand upon his legs again. Every body is puzzled how.

how to account for this step; though it would not be the first time that great abilities have been duped by low cunning. But, be it what it will, he is now certainly only Earl of Chatham; and no longer Mr. Pitt, in any respect whatever. Such an event, I believe, was never read nor heard of. To withdraw, in the fullness of his power, and in the utmost gratification of his ambition, from the House of Commons, (which procured him his power, and which could alone infure it to him) and to go into that Hospital of Incurables, the House of Lords, is a measure so unaccountable, that nothing but proof positive could have made me believe it : but true it is. Hans Stanley is to go Embassador to Russia; and my Nephew, Ellis, to Spain, decorated with the red riband. Lord Shelburne is your Secretary of State, which I suppose he has notified to you this post, by a circular letter. Charles Townshend has now the fole managethent of the House of Commons; but how long he will be content to be only Lord Chatham's vicegerent there, is a question which I will not pretend to decide. There is one very bad fign for Lord Chatham, in his new dignity; which is, that all his enemies, without exception, rejoice at it; and all his friends are stupified and dumb-founded. If I mistake not much, he will in the course of a year emoy perfect otium cum dignitate. Enough of politics.

Is the fair, or at least the fat, Mifs Com with you ftill? It must be confest that the knows the arts of Courts; to be so received at Dresden, and so conpived at in Leicester-fields. Alle d wom and some

Ribes and and There

These never was so wet a summer as this has been, in the memory of man; we have not had one single day, since March, without some rain; but most days a great deal. I hope that does not affect your health, as great cold does; for, with all these inundations, it has not been cold. God bless you!

L E T T E R CCCLXVI.

Blackheath, August the 14th, 1766.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Received yesterday your letter of the 30th past; and I find by it, that it crossed mine upon the road, where they had no time to take notice of one another.

The news-papers have informed you, before now, of the changes actually made; more will probably follow, but what, I am fure I cannot tell you; and I believe nobody can, not even those who are to make them: they will, I suppose, be occasional, as people behave themselves. The causes and consequences of Mr. Pitt's quarrel now appear in print, in a pamphlet published by Lord T—; and in a refutation of it, not by Mr. Pitt himself, I believe, but by some friend of his, and under his sanction. The former is very scurrilous and scandalous, and betrays private conversation. My Lord says, that in his last conference, he thought he had as good a right to nominate the new Ministry as Mr. Pitt, and consequently named

named Lord G-, Lord L-, &c. for Cabinet Council employments; which Mr. Pitt not confenting to, Lord T-- broke up the conference, and in his wrath went to Stowe; where, I prefume, he may remain undisturbed a great while, fince Mr. Pitt will neither be willing, nor able to fend for him again. The pamphlet, on the part of Mr. Pitt, gives an account of his whole political life; and, in that respect, is tedious to those who were acquainted with it before; but, at the latter end, there is an article that expresses such supreme contempt of Lord Tand in so pretty a manner, that I suspect it to be Mr. Pitt's own: you shall judge yourself, for I here transcribe the article. - " But this I will be bold to fay, "that had he (Lord T-) not fastened himself " into Mr. Pitt's train, and acquired thereby fuch an " interest in that great man, he might have crept out " of life with as little notice as he crept in; and gone off with no other degree of credit, than that of 'adding a fingle unit to the bills of mortality."—I wish I could send you all the pamphlets and half-sheets that fwarm here upon this occasion; but that is impossible; for every week would make a ship's cargo. It is certain that Mr. Pitt has, by his dignity of Earl, lost the greatest part of his popularity, especially in the City; and I believe the Opposition will be very strong, and perhaps prevail, next fession, in the House of Commons; there being now nobody there, who can have the authority, and afcendant over them, that Pitt had.

People tell me here, as young Harvey told you at R 4 Drefden,

Dresden, that I look very well; but these are words of course, which every one says to every body. So far is true, that I am better than at my age, and with my broken constitution, I could have expected to be. God bless you!

nt of his whole pointeal life, and, in that refeet,

Blackheath, September the 12th, 1766.

Have this moment received your letter of the 27th past. I was in hopes that your course of waters this year, at Baden, would have given you a longer reprieve from your painful complaint. If I do not mistake, you carried over with you some of Dr. Monsey's powders: Have you taken any of them, and have they done you any good? I know they did me a great deal. I, who pretend to some skill in physic, advise a cool regimen, and cooling medicines.

I do not wonder, that you do wonder at Lord C—'s conduct. If he was not outwitted into his Peerage by Lord B—, his accepting it is utterly inexplicable. The inftruments he has chosen for the great Offices, I believe, will never fit the same case. It was cruel to put such a boy as Lord G—, over the head of old Ligonier; and if I had been the former, I would have refused that commission, during the life of that honest and brave old General. All this to quiet the Duke of R——

affee

to a refignation, and to make Lord B— Lieutenant of Ireland, where, I will venture to prophery, that he will not do. Ligonier was much prefied to give up his regiment of guards, but would by no means do it; and declared, that the King might break him, if he pleafed, but that he would certainly not break himself.

I have no political events to inform you of; they will not be ripe till the meeting of the Parliament. Immediately upon the receipt of this letter, write me one, to acquaint me how you are.

God bless you; and, particularly, may he send

rationates would have coven you

To Boy To T E R CCCLXVIII.

sawond from wood and Blackheath, September the 30th, 1766.

MY DEAR FRIEND, Alt dead heary a mun

I Received yesterday, with great pleasure, your letter of the 18th, by which I consider this last ugly bout as over; and, to prevent its return, I greatly approve of your plan for the South of France, where I recommend for your principal residence, Pezenas, Toulouse, or Bourdeaux, but do not be persuaded to go to Aix en Provence, which by experience I know to be at once the hottest and the coldest place in the world, from the ardour of the Provençal Sun, and the sharpness of the Alpine winds. I also earnestly recommend to you, for your complaint upon your breast, so take, twice a day, asses

affes or (what is better) mare's milk, and that for these six months at least. Mingle turnips, as much as you can, with your diet pog self that, for the est

I have written, as you defired, to Mr. Secretary Conway; but I will answer for it, there will be no difficulty to obtain the leave you alk.

There is no new event in the political world, fince my last; so God bless you! Depositor and selection

who had be presented as the wind with the wholest

LETTER CCCLXIX.

London, October the 20th, 1766.

be MY DEAR FRIEND, AND SE TAKE TO THE TERRET

affile

HE last mail brought me your letter of the 17th. I am glad to hear that your breaft is fo much better. You will find both affes and mares milk enough in the South of France, where it was much drank when I was there. Guy Patin recommends to a patient to have no Doctor but a Horse: and no Apothecary but an Ass. As for your pains and weakness in your limbs, je vous en offre autant; I have never been free from them fince my last rheumatism. I use my legs as much as I can and you should do so too, for disuse makes them work. I cannot now use them long at a time, because of the weakness of old-age; but I contrive to get, by different fnatches, at least two hours walking every day, either in my garden or within doors, as the weather permits. I fet out to-morrow for Bath, in hopes of half repairs, for Medea's kettle could not give

give me whole ones; the timbers of my wretched wessel are too much decayed to be fitted out again for use. I shall see poor Harte there, who, I am told, is in a miserable way, between some real and some imaginary distempers.

I fend you no political news, for one reason, among others, which is, that I know none. Great expectations are raised of this session, which meets the 11th of next month: but of what kind nobody knows, and consequently every body conjectures variously. Lord Chatham comes to town to-morrow from Bath, where he has been to resit himself for the winter campaign: he has hitherto but an indisferent set of Aides de Camp; and where he will find better, I do not know. Charles Townshend and he are already upon ill terms. Ensin je ny vois goute; and so God bless you!

anied he with T T E R in Ceclxx, dans

and the war got and maked of Ski That was

Bath, November the 15th, 1766.

DEMY DEAR FRIEND, of the group transmit signs and h

THE ...

I Have this moment received your letter of the 5th instant, from Base. I am very glad to find that your breast is relieved, though, perhaps, at the expence of your legs; for, if the humous be either gouty or rheumatic, it had better be in your legs than any where else. I have consulted Moisy, the great physician of this place, upon it; who says, that at this distance he dares not prescribe any thing,

as there may be such different causes for your complaint, which must be well weighed by a physician upon the foot: that is, in thort, that he knows nothing of the matter. I will therefore tell you my own case, in 1732, which may be something parallel to yours, I had that year been dangerously ill of a fever, in Holland; and when I was recovered of it, the febrific humour fell into my legs, and fwelled them to that degree, and chiefly in the evening, that it was as painful to me, as it was flocking to others. I came to England with them in this condition; and confulted Mead, Broxholme, and Arbuthnot, who none of them did me the least good; but, ion the contrary, increased the swelling by applying pulcices and emollients. In this condition I remained near fix months, till, finding that the doctors could do me no good, I resolved to consult Palmer, the most eminent surgeon of St. Thomas's Hospital. He immediately told me, that the phyficians had purfued a very wrong method, as the fwelling of my legs proceeded only from a relaxation and weakness of the cutaneous veffels; and he must apply strengtheners instead of emollients. Accordingly he ordered me to put my legs, up to the knees every morning, in brine from the falters, as hot as I could bear it the brine must have had meat falted in it. I did fo; and after having thus pickled my legs for about three weeks, the complaint abfolutely ceased, and I have never had the least swelling in them fince. After what I have faid, I must caution you not to use the same remedy rashly, and without

without the most skilful advice you can find, where you are; for if your swelling proceeds from a gouty, or rheumatic humour, there may be great danger in applying so powerful an astringent, and perhaps repellent, as brine. So go piano, and not without the best advice, upon a view of the parts.

I shall direct all my letters to you Gbez Monsieur Sarrazin, who by his trade is, I suppose, sedentaire at Base, which it is not sure that you will be at any one place, in the South of France. Do you know that he is a descendant of the French poet Sarrazin?

Poor Harte, whom I frequently go to fee here, out of compassion, is in a most miserable way; he has had a stroke of the palsy, which has deprived him of the use of his right leg, affected his speech a good deal, and perhaps his head a little. Such are the intermediate tributes that we are forced to pay, in some shape or other, to our wretched nature, till we pay the last great one of all. May you pay this very late, and as few intermediate tributes as possible; and so jubeo te bene valere. God bless you!

LETTER CCCLXXI.

Bath, December the 9th, 1766,

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Received, two days ago, your letter of the 26th past. I am very glad that you begin to feel the good effects of the climate where you are; I know it faved

faved my life, in 1741, when both the skilful and the unskilful gave me over. In that ramble I stayed three or four days at Nimes, where there are more remains of antiquity, I believe, than in any town in Europe, Italy excepted. What is falsely called la maison quarrée, is, in my mind, the sinest piece of architecture that I ever saw; and the Amphitheatre the clumsiest and the ugliest: if it were in England, every body would swear it had been built by Sir John Vanbrugh.

This place is now, just what you have seen it formerly; here is a great crowd of trisling and unknown people, whom I seldom frequent, in the public rooms; so that I pass my time tres uniment, in taking the air in my post-chaise every morning, and reading in the evenings. And à propos of the latter, I shall point out a book, which I believe will give you some pleasure; at least it gave me a great deal: I never read it before. It is Réslexions sur la Poisse et la Peinture, par l'Abbé de Bos, in two octavo volumess and is, I suppose, to be had at every great town in France. The criticisms and the reslections are just and lively.

It may be you expect some political news from me; but I can tell you that you will have none: for no mortal can comprehend the present state of affairs. Eight or nine people, of some consequence, have resigned their employments; upon which Lord C—made overtures to the Duke of B—and his people; but they could by no means agree, and his Grace went, the next day, full of wrath, to Woo-

burne:

burne: fo that negotiation is intirely at an end. People wait to fee who Lord C-will take in, for fome he must have; even be cannot be alone, contra Mundum. Such a state of affairs, to be sure, was never feen before, in this or in any other country. When this Ministry shall be settled, it will be the fixth Ministry in fix years time.

Poor Harte is here, and in a most miserable condition; those who wish him the best, as I do, must wish him dead. God bless you!

L E T T E R CCCLXXII.

ombest but gardion V London, February the 13th, 1767.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

of what wouthave teen it 1872

T is so long since I have had a letter from you, that I am alarmed about your health: and fear, that the fouthern parts of France have not done fo well by you, as they did by me in the year 1741, when they fnatched me from the jaws of death. Let me know, upon the receipt of this letter, how you are, and where you are.

I have no news to fend you from hence; for every thing feems suspended, both in the Court and in the Parliament, till Lord Chatham's return from the Bath, where he has been laid up this month, by a fevere fit of the gour; and, at present, he has the fole apparent power. In what little business has hitherto been done in the House of Commons, Charles Townshend has given himself more Minis-" Mented terial

terial airs than Lord Chatham will, I believe, approve of However, fince Lord Chatham has thought fit to withdraw himself from that House, he cannot well do without Charles's abilities to manage it as his Deputy.

I do not send you an account of weddings, births, and burials, as I take it for granted that you know them all from the English printed papers, some of which; I presume, are sent after you. Your old acquaintance, Lord Essex, is to be married this week to Harriet Bladen, who has £. 20,000 down, besides the reasonable expectation of as much at the death of her father. My kinsman, Lord Strathmore, is to be matried, in a fortnight, to Miss Bowes, the greatest heiress perhaps in Europe. In short, the matrimonial phrenzy seems to rage at present, and is epidemical. The men marry for money, and I believe you guess what the women marry for. God bless you, and send you health!

eigher much worth or much better together

of Mr. Dawdewell and Vir. Grenville moved

ESTERDAY I received two letters at once from you, both dated Montpellier; one of the 29th of last December, and the other, the 12th of February: but I cannot conceive what became of my letters to you; for I assure you that I answered all yours the next post after I received them; and,

about

MY DEAR FRIEND.

about ten days ago, I wrote you a volunteer, because you had been so long silent; and I was afraid that you were not well: but your letter of the 12th February has removed all my fears upon that score. The same climate that has restored your health so far, will probably, in a little more time, restore your strength too; though you must not expect it to be quite what it was before your late painful complaints. At least I find, that, since my late great rheumatism, I cannot walk above half an hour at a time, which I do not place singly to the account of my years, but chiefly to the great shock given then to my limbs. D'ailleurs I am pretty well for my age, and shattered constitution.

As I told you in my last, I must tell you again in this, that I have no news to fend. Lord Chatham, at last, came to town yesterday, full of gout, and is not able to stir hand or foot. During his absence, Charles Townshend has talked of him and at him. in fuch a manner, that henceforwards they must be either much worse or much better together than lever they were in their lives. On Friday laft. Mr. Dowdeswell and Mr. Grenville moved to have one shilling in the pound of the landtax taken off; which was opposed by the Court; but the Court loft it by eighteen. The Opposition triumph much upon this victory; though, I think, without reason; for it is plain that all the landed gentlemen bribed themselves with this shilling in the pound.

The Duke of Buccleugh is very foon to be married Vol. IV. S

yesterday, to Harrier Bladen; and Lord Strathmore, last week, to Miss Bowes; both couples went directly from the church to consummation in the country, from an unnecessary fear that they should not be tired of each other, if they stayed in town. And now dixi; God bless you!

You are in the right to go to fee the Assembly of the States of Languedoc, though they are but the shadow of the original Etats, while there was some liberty subsisting in France. Notificially and world we was fast common shadow with the state of the s

cuit his poll, or the world rether of which is very

much longer cando if boot shannalhould cather

ed 10t the sat the bound London, April the but 1767.

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Ministry, Bus inis is merely or drainfundad, wifinist

VIESTERDAY I received your letter from Nîmes, by which I find that feveral of our letters have reciprocally miscarried. This may probably have the fame fate; however, if it reaches Monfieur Sarrazin, I prefume he will know where to take his aim at you: for I find you are in motion, and with a Polarity to Drefden. I am very glad to find by it, that your Meridional journey has perfectly recovered you, as to your general state of health; for as to your legs and thighs, you must never expect that they will be restored to their original strength and activity, after so many rheumatic attacks as you have had. Iknow that my limbs, befides the natural debility of old age, have never - brow recovered

recovered the severe attack of rheumatism that plagued me five or fix years ago. I cannot now walk above half an hour at a time, and even that ina hobbling kind of way mount on or donied need thout

I can give you no account of our political world, which is in a fituation that I never faw in my whole life. Lord Chatham has been fo ill, these last twomonths, that he has not been able (fome fay not willing) to do or hear of any business: and for his fous Ministres, they either cannot, or dare not, do any, without his directions; fo that every thing is now at a fland. This fituation, I think, cannot last: much longer; and if Lord Chatham should either quit his post, or the world, neither of which is very improbable, I conjecture, that what is called the Rockingham Connection, stands the fairest for the Ministry. But this is merely my conjecture; for I have neither data nor postulata enough to reason Vines, by which dishad their leveral of anoqu

When you get to Drefden, which I hope you will st not do till next month, our correspondence will be more regular on God blefs you! a I missing a more more

rake his site an yous for I find you see in motion, and withing Polarity to direction is am wery gold to a

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flore wow estoudy bus 2 London, May the 5th, 1767 and

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newer expect that they will be refugered TRASC, YM

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X your letter of the 25th past, from Balle, I prefume this will find you at Dresden, and accordingly I direct to you there. When you write me

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word that you are at Dresden, I will return you are answer, with something better than the answer itself. If you complain of the weather, north of Besançon, what would you say to the weather that we have had here, for these last two months, uninterruptedly? Snow often, north-east wind constantly, and extreme cold. I write this by the side of a good fire; and at this moment it snows very hard. All my promised fruit at Blackheath is quite destroyed; and, what is worse, many of my trees.

I cannot help thinking, that the King of Poland, the Empress of Russia, and the King of Prussia, sentendent comme Larrons en soire, though the former must not appear in it, upon account of the stupidity, ignorance, and bigotry of his Poles. I have a great opinion of the cogency of the controversial arguments of the Russian troops, in favour of the Dissidents: I am sure, I wish them success; for I would have all intoleration intolerated in its turn. We shall soon see more clearly into this matter; for I do not think that the Autocratrice of all the Russias will be trisled with by the Sarmatians.

What do you think of the late extraordinary event in Spain? Could you ever have imagined that those ignorant Goths would have dared to banish the Jefuits? there must have been some very grave and important reasons for so extraordinary a measure: but what they were, I do not pretend to guess, and perhaps I shall never know, though all the coffee-houses here do.

Things are here in exactly the same situation, in which

which they were when I wrote to you last. Lord Chatham is still ill, and only goes abroad for an hour in a day, to take the air, in his coach. The King has, to my certain knowledge, fent him repeated messages, defiring him not to be concerned at his confinement, for that he is resolved to support him pour et contre tous. God bles you! ve enterine 1 bloo emerge bne

T T'E R CCCLXXVI. cannot help thinking that the King of Poland,

fire and at this moment it shows very hard. All my britisted fribe at Biack heath is quite deleroyed;

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MY DEAR FRIEND,

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entendent comme Township unt Received yesterday your letter of the 20th past, from Drefden, where I am glad to find that you are arrived fafe and found. This has been every where an annus mirabilis for bad weather; and it continues here still. Every body has fires, and their winter clothes, as at Christmas. The town is extremely fickly; and fudden deaths have been very

frequent. I and the no structure of all the Kalphana and the I do not know what to fay to you upon public matters; things remain in statu quo, and nothing is done. Great changes are talked of, and I believe will happen foon, perhaps next week; but who is to be changed, for whom, I do not know, though every body else does. I am apt to think that it will be a Mosaic Ministry, made up de pieces rapportées from difperhaps I thall never know, the anoithanna trans

Last Friday I sent your subsidy to Mr. Larpent, who I suppose, has given you notice of it. I believe doirle

TO HIS SON.

262

lieve it will come very feafonably, as all places, both foreign and domestic, are so far in arrears. They talk of paying you all up to Christmas. The King's inferior servants are almost starving.

Count Brühl is either actually married, or very soon to be so, to Lady Egremont. She has, together with her salary as Lady of the Bedchamber, £.2,500 a year; besides ten thousand pounds in money left her, at her own disposal, by Lord Egremont. All this will sound great en écus d'Allemagne. I am glad of it; for he is a very pretry man. God bless you!

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IVXXXIDOO Mer changes are talked of which

but nabody guesses who is to succeed him, as Presi-

and Morthmoton certainly quite this week;

has loft one fide of hundelt, drains anador wave his

fince my last, and though I have no political news to inform you of, I write this to acquaint you with a piece of Greenwich news, which I believe you will be very glad of; I am sure I am. Know then, that your friend Miss ** was happily married, three days ago, to Mr. ***, an Irish gentleman, and a Member of that Parliament, with

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an estate of above two thousand pounds a year. He settles upon her £. 600 jointure, and, in case they have no children, £. 1500. He happened to be by chance in her company one day here, and was at once shot dead by her charms; but as dead men sometimes walk, he walked to her the next morning, and tendered her his person and his fortune; both which, taking the one with the other, she very prudently accepted; for his person is sixty years old.

Ministerial affairs are still in the same ridiculous and doubtful situation as when I wrote to you last. Lord Chatham will neither hear of nor do any business, but lives at Hampstead, and rides about the heath: his gout is said to be fallen upon his nerves. Your Provincial Secretary, Conway, quits this week, and returns to the army, for which he languished. Two Lords are talked of to succeed him; Lord Egmont, and Lord Hillsborough: I rather hope the latter. Lord Northington certainly quits this week; but nobody guesses who is to succeed him, as President. A thousand other changes are talked of, which I neither believe nor reject.

Poor Harte is in a most miserable condition: he has lost one side of himself, and in a great measure his speech; notwithstanding which, he is going to publish his divine poems, as he calls them. I am forry for it, as he had not time to correct them before this stroke, nor abilities to do it since. God bless you!

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od nombnos eldereim stem Blackheath, July the 28, 1767.

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LETTER ROCCELXXVIII find the want of

an interruption. We must foon fee what order will be

Blacklieath, July the gth, 1767.

MY DEAR PRIEND, dea wear been when four very being Have received yours of the 21st past, with the enclosed proposal from the French refugies, for a subscription towards building them un Temple. In D have shown it to the very few people I see, but without the least success. They told me (and with too much truth) that while fuch numbers of poor were literally starving here, from the dearness of all provis fions, they could not think of fending their money into another country, for a building which they recked useless. In truth, I never knew such misery as is here now; and it affects both the hearts and the purfes of those who have either: for my own part, I never gave to a building in my life; which I reckon is only giving to majons and carpenters, and the treasurer of the undertaking TOOO I A a all Took ybadon had

Contrary to the expectations of all mankind here, every thing still continues in flate quo. General Conway has been desired by the King to keep the seals till he has found a successor for him, and the Lord President the same. Lord Chatham is relapsed, and worse than ever: he sees no body, and no body sees him: it is said, that a bungling Physician has checked his gout, and thrown it upon his nerves; which is the worst distemper that a Minister or a Lover can have, as it debilitates the mind of the former, and the body of the latter. Here is at present

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an interregnum. We must soon see what order will be produced from this chaos in a call of the Toring

The Electorate, I believe, will find the want of Comte Flemming for he certainly had abilities; and was as sturdy and inexorable as a Minister at the head of the finances ought always to be. When you fee Comtesse Flemming, which I suppose cannot be of some time, pray make her Lady Chesterfield's and my compliments of condolence.

You fay that Dreften is very fickly , I am fure London is at least as fickly now, for there reigns an epidemical diftemper, called by the genteel name of Rinfluman It is a little fever, of which scarcely any body dies : and it generally goes off with a little look. nots. I have escaped it, I believe, by being here. God keep you from all diffempers, and blefs you! e either is for my own part I never gave

ing to matons and carpenters, and the treatener of the LETTER CCCLXXIX

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Contrary to the expectations of all mankind here,

MY DEAR FRIEND.

The now left Blackheath, till the next fummer, if I live till then ; and am just able to write, which is all I can fay, for I am extremely weak, and have in a great measure lost the use of my legs; I hope they will recover both flesh and strength, for at prefent they have neither. I go to the Bath next week. in hopes of half repairs at most, for those waters, I am fure, will not prove Medea's kettle, nor les eaux de Jouvence to me; however, I shall do as good Courtiers

LETTE Rose CCCLXXVIII

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tiers do, and get what I can, if I cannot get what I will. I fend you no politics, for here are neither politics nor Ministers; Lord Chatham is quiet at Pynfent, in Somersetshire, and his former subalterns do nothing, so that nothing is done. Whatever places or preferments are disposed of, come evidently from Lord—, who affects to be invisible; and who, like a woodcock, thinks, that if his head is but hid, he is not seen at all.

God bless you, and fend you good health, which

a warmer, you may go to Nice en Provence, where Sin William Stanhope is gone to pals his winter, who I amidure, will be extremely glad of your company there.

J. going the Bath, next Satinglay. Using a friffing God bacts you a most, to:

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tiers do, and get what I can, if I cannot get what will. Pred you no policies, for hele Letterhet or LETTER CCCLXXX

London, November the 3d, 1767.

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MY DEAR FRIEND.

VOUR last letter brought me but a scurvy account of your health. For the head-achs you complain of, I will venture to prescribe a remedy, which, by experience, I found a specific, when I was extremely plagued with them. It is, either to chew ten grains of rhubarb every night going to bed; or, what I think rather better, to take, immediately before dinner, a couple of rhubarb pills, of five grains each; by which means it mixes with the aliments, and will, by degrees, keep your body gently open. I do it to this day, and find great good by it. As you feem to dread the approach of a German winter, I would advise you to write to General Conway, for leave of absence for the three rigorous winter months, which I dare fay will not be refused: If you chuse a worse climate, you may come to London; but if you chuse a better and a warmer, you may go to Nice en Provence, where Sir William Stanhope is gone to pass his winter, who, I am fure, will be extremely glad of your company there.

I go to the Bath next Saturday. Utinam ne frustra.

God bless you!

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Planta a sample of the manage of oads or anyma see and s

vap. IXXX1999 uld Rith femorated to Lany body, while he was here of feat-him any com-

and and mid noqu tiew Bath, December the 19th, 1767.

MY DEAR FRIEND. OOT . Sw. od tadt .

ESTERDAY I received your letter of the 29th past, and am very glad to find that you are well enough to think, that you may perhaps stand the winter at Dresden; but if you do, pray take care to keep both your body and your limbs exceedingly warm.

As to my own health, it is, in general, as good as I could expect it, at my age; I have a good flomach, a good digestion, and sleep well; but find that I shall never recover the free use of my legs, which are now full as weak as when I first came hither.

Which neither I, nor, I believe, any body but himfelf can answer; however, I will tell you all that I
do know, and all that I guess concerning him.
This time twelvementh he was here, and in good
health and spirits, except now and then some little
twinges of the gout. We saw one another sour or
five times, at our respective houses; but for these
last eight months, he has been absolutely invisible to
his most intimate friends, les sous Ministres: he would
receive no letters, nor so much as open any packet
about business.

ignorantly checked a coming fit of the gout, and feattered it about his body; and it fell particularly upon his nerves, so that he continues exceedingly vapourish;

vapourish, and would neither fee nor speak to any body, while he was here. I fent him my compliments, and asked leave to wait upon him, but he fent me word, that he was too Ill to fee any body whatfoever. I met him frequently taking the air in his post-chaife, and he looked very well. He set out from hence, for London, last Tuesday, but what to do, whether to refume, or finally to refign the Administration, God knows; conjectures are various. In one of our conversations here, this time twelvemonth. I defired him to secure you a feat in the new Parliament; he affured me he would; and, I am convinced, very fincerely: he faid even that he would make it his own affair; and defired I would give myfelf no more trouble about it. Since that, I have heard no more of it; which made me look out for forse venal borough: and I spoke to a boroughjobber, and offered five-and-twenty hundred pounds for a secure seat in Parliament; but he laughed at my offer, and faid, That there was no fuch thing as a borough to be had now; for the rich East and West Indians had secured them all, at the rate of three thouland pounds at least? but many at four thouland; and two or three, that He knew, at five thousand. This, I confess has vexed me a good deal; and made me the more impatient to know whether Lord C-- had done any thing in it: which I shall know when I go to town, as I propose to do in about a fortnight; and as foon as I know it, you that! To tell you truly what I think I doubt, mounts beyes, to that he continues exceedingly

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from all these nervous disorders, that Lord C-is bors de combat, as a Minister, but do not even hint this to any body. God blefs you I

co luady I are Secare. Lord Butter Record Re which the her was the early cold in the life as re leading and

LETTER CCCLXXXII.

Bath, December the 27th, 1767.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Poor W Her & very III hove

En nova progenies, in this bas della

THE outlines of a new Ministry are now declared; but they are not yet quite filled up: it was formed by the Duke of Bedford. Lord Gower is made Prefident of the Council, Lord Sandwich Post-master, Lord Hillsborough Secretary of State, for America only, Mr. Rigby Vice-treasurer of Ireland. General Conway is to keep the feals a fortnight longer, and then to furrender them to Lord Weymouth. It is very uncertain whether the Duke of Grafton is to continue at the head of the Treafury or not; but, in my private opinion, George Grenville will very foon be there. Lord Chatham feems to be out of the question, and is at his repurchased house at Hayes, where he will not see a mortal. It is yet uncertain whether Lord Shelburne. is to keep his place; if not, Lord Sandwich, they fay, is to fucceed him. All the Rockingham people. are absolutely excluded. Many more changes must necessarily be; but no more are yet declared. It feems

feems to be a resolution taken by somebody, that Ministries are to be annual to the same as a series

Sir George Macartney is next week to be married to Lady Jane Stuart, Lord Bute's fecond daughter.

I never knew it fo cold in my life as it is now, and with a very deep fnow; by which, if it continues, I may be snow-bound here for God knows how long, though I proposed leaving this place the latter end of the week.

Poor Harte is very ill here; he mentions you often, and with great affection. God bless you! When I know more, you shall.

L E T T E R CCCLXXXIII.

London, March the 12th, 1768, MY DEAR FRIEND,

HE day after I received your letter of the 21st past, I wrote to Lord Weymouth, as you defired; and I fend you his answer enclosed: from which (though I have not heard from him fince) I take it for granted, and so may you, that his silence fignifies his Majesty's consent to your request. Your complicated complaints give me great uneafiness, and the more, as I am convinced that the Montpellier physicians have mistaken a material part of your case; as indeed all the physicians here did, except Dr. Maty: In my opinion, you have no gout, but a very scorbutic and rheumatic habit of body, which should be treated in a very different manner from the gout; and.

and, as I pretend to be a very good quack, at least, I would prescribe to you a strict milk diet, with the seeds, such as rice, sago, barley, millet, &c. for the three summer months at least, and without ever tasting wine. If climate signifies any thing (in which, by the way, I have very little faith) you are, in my mind, in the finest climate in the world, neither too hot nor too cold, and always clear: you are with the gayest people living; be gay with them, and do not wear out your eyes with reading at home. L'ennui is the English distemper; and a very bad one it is, as I find by every day's experience; for my deasness deprives me of the only rational pleasure that I can have at my age, which is society; so that I read my eyes out every day, that I may not hang myself.

You will not be in this Parliament, at least not at the beginning of it. I relied too much upon Lord C-'s promise above a year ago, at Bath. He defired that I would leave it to him; that he would make it his own affair, and give it in charge to the Duke of G-, whose province it was to make the parliamentary arrangement. This I depended upon, and I think with reason; but, since that, Lord - has neither feen nor spoken to any body, and has been in the oddest way in the world. I sent to the D- of G-, to know if L- Chad either spoken or sent to him about it; but he affured me that he had done neither: that all was full, or rather running over, at present; but that, if he could crowd you in upon a vacancy, he would do it with great pleasure. I am extremely forry for this accident :

accident; for I am of a very different opinion from you, about being in Parliament, as no man can be of confequence, in this country, who is not in it; and though one may not speak like a Lord Mansfield, or a Lord Chatham, one may make a very good figure in a second rank. Locus of or pluribus umbris. do not pretend to give you any account of the prefent state of this country, or Ministry, not know ing nor quelling it myfelf, ag set agnivit sier se stayag

God bless you, and fend you health, which is the the English distringed sgnillade the florest and greatest and

finds by every day's consequency for the developed de-ONVERSION SHAREST PRODUCTION OF SHEEKING CHARLES CAN

have at my age, whiches located, so that I read my LETTER CCCLXXXIV

London, April the 12th, 1768

MY DEAR FRIEND.

Received, yesterday, your letter of the 1st; in which you do not mention the state of your health, which I delire you will do for the future.

I believe you have gueffed the true reason of Mr. Keith's mission, but, by a whitper that I have lince heard, Keith is rather inclined to go to Turin, as Charge a Affaires. I forgot to tell you, in my last, that I was most positively assured, that the instant you return to Drefden, Keith should decamp. I am perfuaded they will keep their words with me, as there is no one reason in the world why they should not. I will fend your annual to Mr. Larpent, in a fortnight, and pay the forty shillings a day quarterly,

great pleasure. I ap extremely larry vr Jov scoldent s

opinion, there will be no Chargé d'Affaires sent. I agree with you, that point d'Argent point d'Allemand, as was used to be said, and not without more reason, of the Swiss; but, as we have neither the inclination nor (I fear) the power to give subsidies, the Court of Vienna can give good things that cost them nothing, as Archbishoprics, Bishoprics, besides corrupting their Ministers and Favourites with places.

comes for fuddente Elections, here, have been carried to a degree of frenzy hitherto unheard of; that for the town of Northampton has cost the contending parties at least thirty thousand pounds a side, and has fold his borough of ----, to two Members, for nine thousand pounds. As soon as Wilkes had lost his election for the City, he set up for the County of Middlesex, and carried it hollow, as the jockeys fay. Here were great mobs and riots upon that occasion, and most of the windows in town broke, that had no lights for Wilkes and Liberty, who were thought to be inseparable. He will appear, the 20th of this month, in the Court of King's Bench, to receive his sentence; and then great riots are again expected, and probably will God blefs you lob vedt avan has i ment happen.

in your prefent condition, you cannot go into come pany, I hope you have fome acquaintances that come and fit with you, for if originally it was not good for man to be alone, it is much worfe for a fick man

apunon, there will be no Charge a Affaires fent. banana L E To To E R. CCCLXXXV.

as was used to be fairly and not without more reason,

Bath, October the 17th, 1768.

MY DEAR FRIEND

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JOUR two last letters, to myself and Grevenkop, have alarmed me extremely; but I comfort myfelf a little, by hoping, that you, like all people who fuffer, think yourfelf worse than you are. A dropfy never comes fo fuddenly; and I flatter myfelf, that it is only that gouty or rheumatic humour? which has plagued you fo long, that has occasioned the temporary swelling of your legs. Above forty years ago, after a violent fever, my legs were swelled as much as you describe yours to be; I immediately thought that I had a dropfy; but the Faculty affured me, that my complaint was only the effect of my fever, and would foon be cured; and they faid true. Pray let your amanuensis, whoever he may be, write an account regularly, once a week, either to Grevenkop or myfelf, for that is the fame thing, of the state of your health.

I sent you, in four successive letters, as much of the Dutchess of Somerset's fauff as a letter could well convey to you. Have you received all or any of them? and have they done you any good? Though, in your present condition, you cannot go into company, I hope you have fome acquaintances that come and fit with you; for if originally it was not good for man to be alone, it is much worse for a sick man

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to be fo; he thinks too much of his diftemper, and magnifies it. Some men of learning amongst the Ecclefialtics, I dare fay, would be glad to fit with you; and you could give them as good as they brought.

Poor Harte, who is here still, is in a most miserable condition; he has intirely loft the use of his left fide, and can hardly speak intelligibly. I was with him yesterday. He inquired after you with great affection, and was in the utmost concern when I showed him your letter.

My own health is as it has been ever fince I was here last year. I am neither well nor ill, but unwell. I have in a manner loft the use of my legs; for though I can make a shift to crawl upon even ground for a quarter of an hour, I cannot go up or down stairs, unless supported by a servant.

God blefs, and grant you a fpeedy recovery!

Here end the letters to Mr. Stanhope, as he died the 16th of November following.

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LETTER CCCLXXXVI.

To Mrs. Stanhope, then at Paris.

London, March the 16th, 1769.

MADAM.

A Troublesome and painful inflammation in my eyes, obliges me to use another hand than my own, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter from Avignon, of the 27th past.

I am extremely furprifed that Mrs. du-Bouchet should have any objection to the manner in which your late husband defired to be buried, and which you, very properly, complied with. All I defire, for my own burial, is not to be buried alive; but how or where, I think, must be intirely indifferent to every fational creature.

I have no commission to trouble you with, during your stay at Paris; from whence, I wish you and the boys a good journey home; where I shall be very glad to fee you all: and affure you of my being, with great truth.

> Your faithful, humble servant, CHESTERFIELD.

MADAM.

S some day rival to Receive leading the berry to fehoal, do you sportove of the did of our

s I vildadeig the webserwoods emis floidword finispec supplied dealed and some will be able to equi-

area of the commence with the continues and

will upon that day, tend my coach to you, to

LETTER CCCLXXXVIII

To the same, at London.

MADAM,

I was so taken up in playing with the boys, that I forgot their more important affairs. How soon would you have them placed at school? When I know your pleasure as to that, I will send to Monsieur Perny, to prepare every thing for their reception. In the mean time, I beg that you will equip them thoroughly with clothes, linen, &c. all good, but plain; and give me the account, which I will pay; for I do not intend, that, from this time forwards, the two boys should cost you one shilling.

the ord, make the property and the refore I wurt the ord, make your the ord, make the property and the refore I must the property and the refore I must the property and the refore I must the property and the pr

such as it is, here. I got bither last Sunday, the day after I left London, lefs tatigued than I expected to

LETTER CCCLXXXVIII.

of my tellow crawlers, the last partink da hphynx's

As fome day must be fixed for sending the boys to school, do you approve of the 8th of next month? by which time the weather will probably be admirant and settled, and you will be able to equip and them completely a value of the total and some warm and settled, and you will be able to equip

I will,

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QII.

I will, upon that day, fend my coach to you, to carry you and the boys to Loughborough House, with all their immense baggage. I must recommend to you, when you leave them there, to suppress, as well as you can, the overflowings of maternal tenderness; which would grieve the poor boys the more, and give them a terror of their new establishment.

I am, with great truth, Madam, w.

good wolf smalls in Your faithful, humble fervant,

Tuesday Morning. Dasto mont over Chesterfield. know your pleature as to that, I will fend to Monlieur

L E T'TER CCCEXXXIX with clockes, Imen, ter all good, but pla

101 , yad Iliw I doidw ma Bath, October the 11th, 1769.

MADAM,

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TOBODY can be more willing or ready to obey orders, than I am; but then I must like the orders and the orderer. Your orders and yourfelf come under this description; and therefore I must give you an account of my arrival and existence, fuch as it is, here. I got hither last Sunday, the day after I left London, less fatigued than I expected to have been, and now crawl about this place upon my three legs, but am kept in countenance by many of my fellow crawlers: the last part of the Sphynx's, riddle approaches, and I shall soon end, as I began, o school, do you approverruo llamoqui next

od videdWhen you happen to fee either Monsieur of Ma-Jup dame Perny, I beg you will give them this melancholick proof of my caducity, and tell them, that the

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· 280 LORD CHESTERFIELD'S LETTERS

last time I went to see the boys, I carried the Michaelmas quarteridge in my pocket, and when I was there I totally forgot it; but assure them, that I have not the least intention to bilk them, and will pay them faithfully, the two quarters together, at Christmas.

I hope our two boys are well; for then I am fure you are fo.

Your most faithful, humble servant,

LETTER CCCXC.

Bath, October the 28th, 1769.

YOUR kind anxiety for my health and life, is more than, in my opinion, they are both worth: without the former, the latter is a burthen; and, indeed, I am very weary of it. I think I have got some benefit by drinking these waters, and by bathing, for my old, stiff, rheumatic limbs; for I believe I could now outcrawl a shail, or perhaps even a tortoise.

I hope the boys are well. Phil, I dare fay, has been in some scrapes; but he will get triumphantly out of them, by dint of strength and resolution.

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I am, with great truth and effect,
Your most faithful, humble servant,
CHESTERFIELD.

LETTER

on 1 State about 194 to the 1 think it have an action LETTER CCCXCI.

mile this by Childs the Take their white

MADAM, Bath, November the 5th; 1769.

Remember very well the paragraph which you quote from a letter of mine to Mrs. du-Bouchet, and see no reason yet to retract that opinion, in general, which at least nineteen widows in twenty had authorised. I had not then the pleasure of your acquaintance: I had feen you but twice or thrice; and I had no reason to think that you would deviate, as you have done, from other widows, fo much, as to put perpetual shackles upon yourself, for the sake of your children: but (if I may use a vulgarism) one swallow makes no fummer: five righteous were formerly necessary to fave a city, and they could not be found; fo, till I find four more fuch righteous widows as yourself, I shall entertain my former notions of widowhood in general.

I can affure you that I drink here very foberly and cautiously, and at the same time keep so cool a diet, that I do not find the least symptom of heat much less of inflammation. By the way, I never had that complaint, in confequence of having drank thefe! waters; for I have had it bur four times, and always in the middle of fummer. Mr. Hawkins is timerous, even to minuties, and my fifter delights in them. she assignment of the Pop all & bloom

Charles will be a scholar, if you please; but our little Philip, without being one, will be fomething or other other as good, though I do not yet guess what. I am not of the opinion generally entertained in this country, that man lives by Greek and Latin alone, that is, by knowing a great many words of two dead languages, which nobody living knows perfectly, and which are of no use in the common intercourse of life. Useful knowledge, in my opinion, confists of modern languages, history, and geography; fome Latin may be thrown into the bargain, in compliance with cultom, and for closet amusement.

You are, by this time, certainly tired with this long letter, which I could prove to you from Horace's own words (for I am a scholar) to be a bad one; he fays, that water-drinkers can write nothing good: fo I am, with real truth and esteem,

Your most faithful, humble servant,

CHESTERFIELD.

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LETTER CCCXCII.

of has been more farMADAMA von

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Bath, October the 9th, 1770.

Am extremely obliged to you for the kind part, which you take in my health and life: as to the latter, I am as indifferent myfelf, as any other body can be; but as to the former, I confess care and anxiety; for while I am to crawl upon this Planet, I would willingly enjoy the health at least of an infect. How far these waters will restore me to that moderate degree of health, which alone I aspire at, I have aved 1 de 6

not yet given them a fair trial, having drank them but one week; the only difference I hitherto find is, that I fleep better than I did.

I beg that you will neither give yourself, nor Mr. Fitzhugh, much trouble about the Pine plants; for as it is three years before they fruit, I might as well, at my age, plant Oaks, and hope to have the advantage of their timber; however, somebody or other, God knows who, will eat them, as fomebody or other will fell and fell the Oaks I planted fiveand-forty years ago.

I hope our boys are well; my respects to them both. ano bed and I am, with the greatest truth.

Your most taidled, humble servant,

Soon golden Your faithful, humble fervant,

mostis has they feet d'CHESTERFIELD.

LETTER CCCXCIII.

Bath, November the 4th, 1770.

MADAM.

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THE post has been more favourable to you trace had than I intended it should; for, upon my on word, I answered your former letter, the post after whod had received it. However you have got a lofs, as one weslay sometimes in Ireland, as and , ed has

notine of My friends from time to time require bills of Bel health from me in these suspicious times, when the sho Plague is bufy in fome parts of Europe All I wed canefay, in lanswer to their kind inquiries, is, that I have

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have not the distemper properly called the Plague; but that I have all the plagues of old-age, and of a shattered carcase. These waters have done me what little good I expected from them; though by no means what I could have wished, for I wished them to be les eaux de Jouvence.

Charles's was very finely written, and Philip's very prettily: they are perfectly well, and fay that they want nothing. What grown-up people will or can fay as much?

Madam, and I am, with the trueft efteem, and a line of the Madam, and I

e for the wears O

CHESTERFIELD.

L E T T E R CCCXCIV.

Bath, October the 27th, 1771.

MADAM,

UPON my word, you interest yourself, in the
state of my existence, more than I do myself;
for it is worth the care of neither of us. I ordered
my velet de chambre, according to your orders, to
inform you of my safe arrival here; to which I can
add nothing, being neither better nor worse than I
was then.

I am very glad that our boys are well. Pray give

I am not at all furprised at Mr. sconver-

fion; for he was, at seventeen, the idol of old women, for his gravity, devotion, and dullness.

I am, Madam,

Your most faithful, humble fervant,

CHESTERFIELD.

L E T T E R CCCXCV.

To Charles and Philip Stanhope.

Bath, October the 27th, 1771.

Received, a few days ago, two the best written letters that ever I saw in my life; the one signed Charles Stanhope, the other Philip Stanhope. As for you, Charles, I did not wonder at it; for you will take pains, and are a lover of letters: but you idle rogue, you Phil, how came you to write so well, that one can almost say of you two, et cantare pares et respondere parati? Charles will explain this Latin to you.

I am told, Phil, that you have got a nick-name at school, from your intimacy with Master Strangeways; and that they call you Master Strangerways; for, to be sure, you are a strange boy. Is this true?

Tell me what you would have me bring you both from hence, and I will bring it you, when I come to town. In the mean time, God bless you both!

CHESTERFIELD.

THE END OF THE LETTERS.

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MISCPLLANEOUS PIECES.

Some Account of the Government of the Republic

Seven United Provinces is concept to a the series of the Seven United Provinces is concept to an education and it is needly in it, either themselves in by representatives of their own chasing they have nothing to do true to pay and example.

The Sovereign Power is commonly thought to be in the States General, as her we wheat reliable at the Hague. It is no fuch thing they are only himted Deputies, obliged to confult their Conflittents upon every point of any importance that occurs. It is very true, that the Sovereign Power is lodged in the very true, that the Sovereign Power is lodged in the

"The Members of the Senate, or Vrostlebaps, were originally elected by the Burgners, as a general, and often a tumultuous, affembly; but now for near two hundred years, the Vrostlebaps found means to perfusale the people, that thefoldedions were troublesome and dangerous; and kindly took upon themfelves to elect their own Members, upon vacaques; and to keep their own body full, without troubling the people with an election of that the Ariflocracy was effablished.

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MISCELLANEOUS PIECES.

Some Account of the Government of the Republic of the Seven United Provinces.

THE Government of the Republic of the Seven United Provinces, is thought by many to be Democratical; but it is merely Aristocratical *; the people not having the least share in it, either themselves, or by representatives of their own chusing: they have nothing to do but to pay and grumble.

The Sovereign Power is commonly thought to be in the States General, as they are called, refiding at the Hague. It is no fuch thing; they are only limited Deputies, obliged to confult their Constituents upon every point of any importance that occurs. It is very true, that the Sovereign Power is lodged in the

States

The Members of the Senate, or Vrootschaps, were originally elected by the Burghers, in a general, and often a tumultuous affembly: but now for near two hundred years, the Vrootschaps found means to persuade the people, that these elections were troublesome and dangerous; and kindly took upon themselves to elect their own Members, upon vacancies; and to keep their own body full, without troubling the people with an election: it was then that the Aristocracy was established.

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States General; but who are those States General? Not those who are commonly called so, but the Senate, Council, or Vrootschaps, call it what you will, of every town in every Province that fends Deputies to the Provincial States of the faid Province. Thefe Vrootschaps are in truth the States General; but were they to affemble, they would amount, for ought I know, to two or three thousand: it is, therefore, for conveniency and dispatch of business, that every Province fends Deputies to the Hague, who are constantly affembled there; who are commonly called the States General, and in whom many people falfely imagine that the Sovereign Power is lodged. These Deputies are chosen by the Vrootschaps; but their powers are extremely circumscribed; and they can confent to * nothing, without writing, or returning themselves, to their several constituent towns, for instructions in that particular case. They are authorised to concur in matters of order; that is, to continue things in the common, current, ordinary train; but for the least innovation, the least step out

States

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When the Deputies of the States figned the Triple Alliance with Sir William Temple, in two or three days time, and without confulting their Principals (however Sir William Temple values himself upon it) in reality, they only figned Sub Spe Ration. The act was not valid; and had it not been ratified by the several Constituents of the several Provinces, it had been as non avenu. The Deputies who figned that treaty Sub Spe Ration, knew well enough that, considering the nature of the treaty, and the then situation of affairs, they should not only be avowed, but approved of by their Masters the States.

of the ordinary course, new instructions must be given; either to deliberate or to conclude.

Many people are ignorant enough, to take the Province of Holland, fingly, for the Republic of the Seven United Provinces; and when they mean to speak of the Republic, they say, * Holland will, or will not, do such a thing: but most people are ignorant enough to imagine, that the Province of Holland has a legal, a constitutional power over the other six; whereas, by the Act of Union, the little Province of Groningen is as much Sovereign as the Province of Holland. The Seven Provinces are Seven distinct Sovereignties, confederated together in one

Republic;

When the Province of Holland has once taken an important resolution, of Peace, or War, or Accession to any treaty, it is very probable that the other Provinces will come into that measure, but by no means certain: it is often a great while first; and when the little Provinces know that the Province of Holland has their concurrence much at heart, they will often annex conditions to it; as the little towns in Holland frequently do, when the great ones want their concurrence. As for inftance; when I was foliciting the accession of the Republic to the treaty of Vienna, in 1731; which the Penlionary, Comte Sinzendorf, and I, had made fecretly at the Hague; all the towns in Holland came pretty readily into it, except the little town of Briel; whose Deputies frankly declared, that they would not give their confent, till Major such-a-one, a very honest gentleman of their town, was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel; and that, as foon as that was done, they would agree, for they approved of the treaty. This was accordingly done in two or three days, and then they agreed. This is a strong instance of the absurdity of the unanimity required, and of the use that is often made of it.

Republic; no one having any superiority over, or dependence upon any other: nay, in point of precedence, Holland is but the second, Gueldres being the first. It is very natural to suppose, and it is very true in fact, that Holland, from its superiority of strength and riches, and paying 58 per cent. should have great weight and influence in the other six Provinces; but power it has none.

The unanimity, which is constitutionally requisite for every act of each Town, and each Province separately; and then for every act of the Seven collectively; is something so absurd, and so impracticable in government, that one is assonished, that even the form of it has been tolerated so long; for the substance is not strictly observed. And sive Provinces will often conclude, though two diffent, provided that Holland and Zeland are two of the

However, should one, or even two, of the lesser Provinces, who contribute little, and often pay less to the public charge, obstinately and frivolously, or perhaps corruptly, perfist in opposing a measure which Holland and the other more considerable Provinces thought necessary, and had agreed to, they would send a Deputation to those opposing Provinces, to reason with, and persuade them to concur; but if this would not do, they would, as they have done in many instances, conclude without them. The same thing is done in the Provincial States of the respective Provinces; where, if one or two of the least considerable towns pertinaciously oppose a necessary measure, they conclude without them. But as this is absolutely unconstitutional, it is avoided as much as possible, and a complete unanimity procured, if it can be, by such little concessions as that which I have mentioned to the Briel Major.

five-As fourteen or fifteen of the principal towns of Holland will conclude an affair, notwithstanding the opposition of four or five of the leffer. cannot help conjecturing, that William, the first Prince of Orange, called the Taciturne, the ablest man, without dispute, of the age he lived in, not excepting even the Admiral Coligny *, and who had the modelling of the Republic as he pleafed ; I conjecture, I fav. that the Prince of Orange would never have fuffered fuch an abfurdity to have crippled that government, which he was at the head of, if he had not thought, it useful to himself and his family. He covered the greatest ambition with the greatest modesty, and declined the infignificant, outward figns, as much as he defired the folid fubstance of power: Might he not therefore think, that this abfurd, though requisite unanimity, made a Stadthouder abfolutely necessary, to render the government practicable? In which case he was very fure the Stadthouder would always be taken out of his family; and he minded things, not names. The Penfionary + thinks this conjecture probable and sable Provinces thought incompres and had agreed to they would

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Tam perfuaded, that had the Tacitume been in the place of the Admiral Coligny, he would never have been prevailed upon to have come to Paris, and to have put himself into the power of those two monters of person and cruelty, Catharine of Medicis and Charles the Ninth. His prudent escape from Flanders is a proof of it; when he rather chose to be Prince sant terre than Prince sant time.

Monfieur Slingelandt, the ablest Minister, and the honestest man I ever knew. I may justly call him my Friend, my Master,

as we were talking the other day, confidentially, upon this subject, we both agreed that this monstrous and impracticable unanimity, required by the conftitution, was alone sufficient to bring about a Stadthouder, in spite of all the measures of the Republican party to prevent it. He confessed to me, that upon his being made Penfionary, he entered into folemn engagements, not to contribute, directly or indirectly, to any change of the present form of government, and that he would scrupulously observe those engagements; but that he foresaw the defects in their form of government, and the abuses crept into every part of it, would infallibly produce a* Stadthouder, tumultuously imposed upon the Republic, by an infurrection of the populace, as in the case of King William. I told him, that, in my opinion, if that were to happen a fecond time, the Stadthouder so made would be their King +. He faid, he plan about but had believed

and my Guide. For I was then quite new in business; he infructed me, he loved, he trusted me.

It has fince appeared that he judged very rightly. A olam

† And so he ought to be now, even for the sake and preservation of the Seven Provinces. The necessary principle of a Republic, Virtue, subsists no longer there. The great riches of private people (though the public is poor) have long ago extinguished that principle, and destroyed the equality necessary to a Commonwealth. A Commonwealth is unquestionably, upon paper, the most rational and equitable form of government; but it is as unquestionably impracticable, in all countries where riches have introduced luxury, and a great inequality of conditions. It will only do in those Countries that poverty keeps virtuous. In England, it would very soon grow a tyran-

believed to too; and that he had urged all this to the most considerable Members of the Government, and the most jealous Republicans. That he had even formed a plan which he had laid before them, as the only possible one to prevent this impending danger. That a Stadthouder was originally the chief spring upon which their government turned; and that, if they would have no Stadthouder, they must substitute a succedaneum. That one part of that succedaneum must be to abolish the unanimity required by the present form of government, and which only a Stadthouder could render practicable by his influence. That the abuses which were crept into the military part of the government, must be corrected, or that they alone, if they were suffered to go on, would make a Stadthouder; in order that the army and the navy, which the public paid for, might be of some use, which at present they were not. That he had laid these and many other considerations of the like nature before them; in the hopes of one of these two things; either to prevail with them to make a Stadthouder unnecessary, by a just reforma-

nical Aristocracy; soon afterwards, an Oligarchy; and soon after that, an absolute Monarchy: from the same causes that Denmark, in the last century, became so : the intolerable oppression of the bulk of the people, from those whom they looked upon as their equals. If the young Stadthouder has abilities, he will, when he grows up, get all the powers of a limited Monarchy, fuch as England, no matter under what name; and if he is really wife, he will defire no more: if the people are wife, they will give it him lat it ob vino the it according to the wife and the control tion

some notice now over for the lake and prefer-

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tion of the abuses of the government, and substitut. ing a majority, or, at most, two thirds, to the absurd and impracticable unanimity now requifite: or, if they would not come into these preventive regulations, that they would treat amicably with the Prince of Orange, and give him the Stadtbouderat, under strict limitations, and with effectual provisions for their liberty. But they would liften to neither of these expedients; the first affected the private interests of most of the considerable people of the Republic, whose power and profit arose from those abuses: and the second was too contrary to the violent passions and prejudices of Messrs. d'Obdam, Booteslaer, Hallewyn, and other Heads of the high Republican party. Upon this, I faid to the Penfionary, that he had fully proved to me, not only that there would, but that there ought to be a Stadthouder. He replied, "There will most certainly be one, and you " are young enough to live to fee it. I hope I shall "be out of the way first; but if I am not out of "the world at that time, I will be out of my place, " and pass the poor remainder of my life in quiete I only pray that our new Mafter, whenever we have him, may be gently given us. My friend the Greffier * thinks a Stadthouder absolutely neceffary to fave the Republic, and fo do'I, as much 28 he people, of being unjuffly oppressed.

The Greffier Fagel, who had been Greffer, that is Secretary of State, above fifty years. He had the deepest knowledge of husiness, and the soundest judgment, of any man I ever knew in largy life: but he had not that quick, that intuitive sagacity, which

as he, if they will not accept of the other expedi-" ent: but we are in very different situations : he is " under no engagements to the contrary, and I am." He then asked me, in confidence, whether I had any instructions to promote the Prince of Orange's views and interest. I told him truly, I had not; but that, however, I would do it, as far as ever I could, quietly and privately. That he himself had convinced me, that it was for the interest of the Republic, which I honoured and wished well to; and also that it would be a much more efficient Ally to England, under that form of government, "I must own," replied he, "that at present we have neither strength, secrecy, nor dispatch." I said, that I knew that but too well, by my own experience; and I added (laughing) that I looked upon him as the Prince of Orange's greatest enemy; and upon that Prince's violent and impetuous enemies + to be his best friends; for that,

which the Pensionary Slingelandt had. He has often owned to me, that he thought things were gone too far, for any other remedy but a Stadthouder: a brus sist agod advalag but ?

These hot-headed Republicans pushed things with the unjustest acrimony against the Prince of Orange. They denied him his rank in the army; and they kept him out of the possesfion of the Marquisat of Tervere and Flessingen, which were his own patrimony; and by these means gave him the merit with the people, of being unjuftly oppressed.

Had he been an abler man himself, or better advised by others, he might have availed himself much more solidly than he did, of the affection, or rather the fary, of the people in his favour, when they tumultuously made him Stadthouder; but he but he had not that quick, that intuitive lagacity

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if his (the Pensionary's) plan were to take place, the Prince would have very little hopes. He interrupted me here, with saying, Ne craignez rien, Milord, de ce coté la; mon plan blesse trop l'interêt particulier, pour être reçu à present que l'amour du public n'éxiste plus !. I thought this conversation too remarkable, not to write down the heads of it when I came home.

did not know the value and importance of those warm moments. in which he might have fixed and clinched his power. Dazzled with the show and trappings of power, he did not enough attend to the substance. He attempted a thing impossible, which was, to please every body: he heard every body, begun every thing, and finished nothing. When the people, in their fury, made him Stadthouder, they defired nothing better than totally to diffolve the Republican form of government. He should have The tumultuous love of the populace must be feized and enjoyed in its first transports; there is no hoarding of it to use upon occasions; it will not keep. The most considerable people of the former government would gladly have compounded for their lives, and would have thought themselves very well off in the castle of Louvestein; where one of the Prince of Orange's predecessors sent some of their ancestors, in times much less favourable. An affected moderation made him lose that moment The government is now in a disjointed, loofe state. Her R. H. the Gouvernante has not power enough to do much good; and yet the has more power than authority. Peace and economy, both public and domestic, should, therefore, be the fole objects of her politics, during the minority of her fon. The Public is almost a bankrupt; and her fon's private fortune extremely intercumbered. She has fense and ambition; but it is, fill, the fense and ambition of a woman; that is, inconsequential. What remains to be done, requires a firm, manly, and vigorous mind.

Wever fear, my Lord; a plan so prejudicial to private interesting will not be adopted, where Patriotism no longer subsists.

MAXIMS

The

The Republic has hardly any Navy at all; the fingle fund for the Marine being the finall duties upon exports and imports; which duties are not half collected, by the connivance of the Magistrates themselves, who are interested in smuggling: so that the Republic has now no other title, but courtesy, to the name of a Maritime Power. Their trade decreases daily, and their national debt increases. I have good reason to believe, that it amounts to at least fifty millions sterling.

The decrease of their Herring-fishery, from what it appears by Monsieur de Wit's Memoirs of Holland, in his time, is incredible; and will be much greater, now we are, at last, wife enough to take our

own Herrings upon our own coafts. solding in sale aviolities

They do not, now, get by freight one quarter of what they used to get: they were the general sea-carriers of all Europe. The Act of navigation, passed in
Cromwell's time, and afterwards confirmed in Charles
the IId's, gave the first blow to that branch of their
profit; and now we carry more than they do. Their
only profitable remaining branches of commerce are,
their trade to the East-Indies, where they have engrossed the spices; and their illicit trade in America
from Surinam, St. Eustatia, Curaçoa, &c.

Their woollen and filk manufactures bear not the least comparison with ours, neither in quantity, quality, nor exportation.

Their police is still excellent, and is now the only remains of that prudence, vigilance, and good discipline, which formerly made them esteemed, respected, and courted.

-11 med 1

MAXIMS.

Story Property State of The Charles

STATE MARKET AND STATE OF STAT

By the Earl of CHESTERFIELD*.

A Proper secrecy is the only mystery of able men; mystery is the only secrecy of weak and cunning ones. mile ion College

A man who tells nothing, or who tells all, will equally have nothing told him.

If a fool knows a fecret, he tells it because he is a fool; if a knave knows one, he tells it wherever it is his interest to tell it. But women, and young men, are very apt to tell what secrets they know, from the vanity of having been trufted. Trust none of these, whenever you can help it.

Inattention to the prefent business, be it what it will; the doing one thing, and thinking at the same time of another, or the attempting to do two things at once; are the never-failing figns of a little, frivolous mind. in once, Those that

A man who cannot command his temper, his attention, and his countenance, should not think of being a man of business. The weakest man in the world can avail himself of the passion of the wisest. The inattentive man cannot know the business, and confequently cannot do it. And he who cannot command his countenance, may e'en as well tell his thoughts as show them, in some sine some sine and the state of the sta

Thefe Maxims are referred to in Letter CCLXIII, p. 10. this Volume, this request, One must send of the first

Diffrust all those who love you extremely upon a very flight acquaintance, and without any visible reason. Be upon your guard, too, against those, who confess as their weaknesses, all the Cardinal virtues.

In your friendships, and in your enmities, let your confidence and your hostilities have certain bounds; make not the former dangerous, nor the latter irreconcileable. There are strange vicisfitudes in bufiness!

Smooth your way to the head, through the heart. The way of reason is a good one; but it is commonly fomething longer, and perhaps not fo fure.

Spirit is now a very fashionable word: to act with Spirit, to speak with Spirit, means only, to act rashly, and to talk indiscreetly. An able man shows his Spirit by gentle words and resolute actions: he is neither hot nor timid.

When a man of sense happens to be in that disagreeable fituation, in which he is obliged to ask himself more than once, What shall I do? he will answer himself, Nothing. When his reason points out to him no good way, or at least no one way less bad than another, he will stop short, and wait for light. A little bufy mind runs on at all events, must be doing; and, like a blind horse, fears no dangers, because he sees none. Il faut scavoir s'ennuïer.

Patience is a most necessary qualification for business; many a man would rather you heard his story, than granted his request. One must seem to hear the the unreasonable demands of the petulant, unmoved, and the tedious details of the dull, untired. That is the least price that a man must pay for auhigh station. The full grad thus reproped as a small of

It is always right to detect a fraud, and to perceive a folly, but it is often very wrong to expose either. A man of business should always have his eyes open, but must often seem to have them shut.

In Courts, nobody should be below your management and attention; the links that form the Court-chain are innumerable and inconceivable. You must hear with patience the dull grievances of a Gentleman Usher, or Page of the Back-stairs; who, very probably, lies with some near relation of the favourite maid, of the favourite Mistress, of the favourite Minister, or perhaps of the King himself; and who, consequently, may do you more dark and indirect good, or harm, than the first man of quality.

One good patron at Court may be sufficient, provided you have no personal enemies; and, in order to have none, you must sacrifice (as the Indians do to the Devil) most of your passions, and much of your time, to the numberless evil Beings that intest it is order to prevent and avert the mischiefs they can do you.

raise himself; but must, like the ivy round the oak, twine himself round some man of great power and interest. You must belong to a Minister some time, before any body will belong to you. And an inviolable sidelity to that Minister, even in his disgrace, will

As Kings are begotten and born like other men, it is to be prefumed that they are of the human species; and perhaps, had they the same education, they might prove like other men. But, flattered from their cradles, their hearts are corrupted, and their heads are turned, so that they seem to be a species by themselves. No King ever said to himself, Homo sum, nibil bumani a me alienum puto.

Flattery cannot be too strong for them; drunk with it from their infancy, like old drinkers, they require drams a more sponsormal and with will wilded

They prefer a personal attachment to a public fervice, and reward it better to They are vain and weak enough to look upon it as a free will offering to their merit, and not as a burnt-facrifice to their power.

If you would be a favourite of your King, address yourself to his weaknesses. An application to his reason will seldom prove very successful.

In Courts, ballifulness and timidity are as projudicial on one hand, as impudence and rashness are on the other. A steady assurance, and a cool interpolity, with an exterior modesty, are the true and necessary medium.

Never apply for what you fee very little probability of obtaining, for you will, by asking improper and unattainable things, accustom the Ministers to refuse you so often, that they will find it easy to refuse

MISCELLANEOUS PIECES

refuse you the properest, and most reasonable ones, It is a common, but a most mistaken rule at Court, to ask for every thing, in order to get something : you do get fomething by it, it is true; but that fomething is refusals and ridicule with their in antity of the bound

There is a Court jargon, a chit-chat, a finall talk, which turns fingly upon trifles; and which in a great many words, fays little or nothing. It stands fools in stead of what they cannot say, and men of fense in stead of what they should not say. It is the proper language of Levees, Drawing-rooms, and Antichambers: it is necessary to know it.

Whatever a man is at Court, he must be genteel and well-bred; that cloak covers as many follies, as that of charity does fins. I knew a man of great quality, and in a great station at Court, considered and respected, whose highest character was, that he was humbly proud, and genteely dull many and

It is hard to fay which is the greatest fool; he who tells the whole truth, or he who tells no truth at all. Character is as necessary in business as in trade. No man can deceive often in either: g years ined isvoy no

At Court, people embrace without acquaintance, ferve one another without friendship, and injure one another without hatred. Interest, not sentiment, is the growth of that foil des not belian obview bas

A difference of opinion, though in the merest trifles, alienates little minds, especially of high rank. It is full as easy to commend as to blame a great man's cook, or his taylor; it is shorter too; and the objects are no more worth difputing about, than the

people

A chearful, easy countenance and behaviour, are very useful at Court; they make fools think you a good-natured man; and they make designing men think you an undesigning one.

There are some occasions in which a man must tell half his secret, in order to conceal the rest: but there is seldom one in which a man should tell it all. Great skill is necessary to know how far to go, and where to stop.

Ceremony is necessary in Courts, as the outwork and defence of manners.

Flattery, though a base coin, is the necessary pocket-money at Court; where, by custom and consent, it has obtained such a currency, that it is no longer a fraudulent, but a legal payment.

If a Minister refuses you a reasonable request, and either slights or injures you; if you have not the power to gratify your resentment, have the wisdom to conceal and dissemble it. Seeming good-humour on your part may prevent rancour on his, and perhaps bring things right again: but if you have the power to hurt, hint modestly, that if provoked, you may possibly have the will too. Fear, when real, and well founded, is perhaps a more prevailing motive at Courts than love.

At Court, many more people can hurt, than can help your please the former, but engage the latter.

Awkwardness is a more real disadvantage than it

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is generally thought to be; it often occasions ridicule, it always lessens dignity.

A man's own good-breeding is his best security

against other people's ill-manners.

Good-breeding carries along with it a dignity, that is respected by the most petulant. Ill-breeding invites and authorizes the familiarity of the most timid. No man ever said a pert thing to the Duke of Marl-borough. No man ever said a civil one (though many a flattering one) to Sir Robert Walpole.

When the old clipped money was called in for a new coinage in King William's time; to prevent the like for the future, they stamped on the edges of the erown pieces these words, et Decas et Tutamen. That is exactly the case of good-breeding.

Knowledge may give weight, but accomplishments only give lustre; and many more people see than

weigh.

Most arts require long study and application; but the most useful art of all, that of pleasing, requires only the defire.

It is to be prefumed, that a man of common lense, who does not defire to please, defires nothing at all; fince he must know that he cannot obtain any thing without if.

A skilful Negotiator will most carefully distinguish between the little and the great objects of his businels, and will be as frank and open in the former, as he will be secret and pertinacious in the latter.

He will, by his manners and address, endeavour,

at least, to make his public adversaries his personal friends. He will flatter and engage the Man, while he counterworks the Minister; and he will never alienate people's minds from him, by wrangling for points, either absolutely unattainable, or not worth attaining. He will make even a merit of giving up, what he could not or would not carry, and sell a trifle for a thousand times its value.

A foreign Minister, who is concerned in great affairs, must necessarily have spies in his pay; but he must not too easily credit their informations, which are never exactly true, often very salse. His best spies will always be those whom he does not pay, but whom he has engaged in his service by his dexterity and address, and who think themselves nothing less than spies.

There is a certain jargon, which, in French, I should call un Persistage d'Affaires, that a foreign Minister ought to be perfectly master of, and may use very advantageously at great entertainments, in mixed companies, and in all occasions where he must speak, and should say nothing. Well turned and well spoken, it seems to mean something, though in truth it means nothing. It is a kind of political badinage, which prevents or removes a thousand difficulties, to which a foreign Minister is exposed in mixed conversations.

If ever the Volto sciolto, and the Pensieri stretti are necessary, they are so in these affairs. A grave, dark, reserved, and mysterious air, has summ in cornu. An even, casy, unembarrassed one invites Von IV.

X considence,

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confidence, and leaves no room for gueffestand door

Both simulation and difficulation are absolutely necessary forgationeign Ministery and yet they must stop short of falschood and persidy with middle point is the difficult once thereability consists. He must often stemopleased, when he is vexed; and grave, when he is pleased; but he must never say either: that would be falschoody an indelible stain to character middle movement of eyewis as a skall a

milt; an expence proportioned to his appointments and fortune is necessary; but, on the other hand, debt vis inevitable ruin to him; at sinks him into disgrace at the Court where he resides, and into the most service and abject dependance on the Court that sent him. As he cannot resent ill usage, he is sure to have enough of it.

Memoirs that nothing contributed more to his rife, than that prudent occonomy which he had obferved from his youth; and by which he had always a fum of money before hand, in case of emergencies.

It is very difficult to fix the particular point of economy; the best error of the two is on the parsimonious side. That may be corrected, the other cannot.

The reputation of generofity is to be purchased pretty cheap; it does not depend so much upon a man's general expense, as it does upon his giving handsomely

handlomely where it is proper to give at all in A man, for inftance, who should give a servant four shillings, would pais for covetous, while he who gave him a crown, would be reckoned generous to that the difference of those two opposite characters, turns upon one shilling. A man's character, in that particular, depends a great deal upon the report of his own servants; a more trish above common wages, makes their report favourable, ad bloow and radio

Take care always to form your establishment of much within your income, as to leave a sufficient fund for unexpected contingencies, and a prudent liberality. There is hardly a year, in any man's life, in which a small sum of ready money may not be employed to great advantage. For the complete is ondance on the Court that such is ondance on the Court that such is shown as the captuot rejentall usage as he captuot account the second of the captuot as a second of the captuot of the captuot as a second of the captuot as a second of the captuot of the captuot as a second of the captuot of the captuot of the captuot as a second of the captuot of the captu

e'sqolfnest? nM ni nestring si lenigiro ent to back of noque this came and not perfect to be selected to the control of the co

It is very difficult to hix the particular point of economy a the best error of the two is on the parsimomous side. That may be corrected, the other cannot.

The reputation of generofity is to be purchased pretty cheap; it does not depend so much upon a man's general expende, as it does upon his giving TADITILO TO SX handsomely

POLITICAL MAXIMS of the Cardinal de Retz, in his Memoirs; and the late Earl of CHESTERFIELD'S Remarks.

i. I L y a souvent de la folie à conjurer; mais il n'y
a rien de pareil pour faire les gens sages dans
la suite; au moins pour quelque tems. Comme le
péril dans ces sortes d'affaires dure même après les
occasions, l'on est prudent et circonspect dans les
momens qui les suivent.

2. Un esprit médiocre, et susceptible par consequent d'injustes désiances, est de tous les caractères celui qui est le plus opposé à un bon chef de Parti; dont la qualité la plus souvent et la plus indispensablement nécessaire, est de supprimer en beaucoup d'occasions, et de cacher en toutes, les soupçons même les plus légitimes.

que le ridicule de celui contre lequel on le fait.

4. Le fecret n'est pas si rare qu'on le croit, entre des gens qui sont accoutumés à se mêler des grandes affaires.

5. Descendre jusqu'aux petits est le plus sur moien de s'égaler aux grands.

6. La mode, qui a du pouvoir en toutes choses, ne l'a si sensiblement en aucune, qu'à être bien ou mal à la Cour; il y a des tems ou la disgrace est une maniere de seu qui purisse toutes les mauvaises qualités, et qui illumine toutes les bonnes; il y a des

des tems ou il ne sied pas bien à un honnête homme d'être disgracié.

7. La souffrance aux personnes d'un grand rang, tient lieu d'une grande ventu

8. Il y a une espéce de galimatias que la pratique fait connoitre quelquésois, mais que la spéculation ne fait jamais entendre.

Jo. Toutes les Puissances ne peuvent rien contre la réputation d'un homme qui se la conserve dans son Corps.

par la confiance.

que quand ceux qui commandent ont perdu la bonte; parce que c'est justement le moment dans lequel ceux qui obélisent perdent le respect; et c'est dans ce même moment que l'on revient de la léthargie: mais par des convulsions.

12. Il y a un voile qui doit toujours couvrir tout ce que l'on peut dire, et tout ce que l'on peut croire du Droit des Peuples et de celui des Rois, qui ne s'accordent jamais si bien ensemble que dans le silence.

peut plus faire que des fautes; mais la fortune ne met jamait les hommes dans cet état, qui est de tous le plus malheureux, et personne n'y tombe que ceux qui s'y précipitent par leur faute.

14. Il siéd plus mal à un Ministre de dire des sottises, que d'en faire.

in Ju Lies avis que l'on donne à un Ministre passent

pour des crimes, routes les fois qu'onine lui est point

et presqu'aussi eriminel, de pouvoir le bien que de vouloir le mal.

que de décider.

est condécid A Paris, idans les émotions populaires, les plus échaussés ne veulent passes qu'ils apellent, se desseurer passes qu'ils apellent, se desseurer passes à l'82

spassillaup restressiuot usb. sprisidixed lauf spriesla restrata esbrutameinam el mood enisherende, et peutratrecque le Confulat du Cheval de Calenth

avec ceux qui en sont, que d'agir contre ceux qui y sont en so

- 21. Les plus grands dangers ont leurs charmes, pour peu que l'on apperçoive de gloire dans la perfective des mauvais succès; les médiocres dangers n'ont que des horreurs, quand la perte de la réputation est attachée à la mauvaise sortune.
- 22. Les extrêmes sont toujours fâcheunts Mais ce sont des moiens sages quand ils sont nécessaires : nee qu'ils ont de consolant c'est qu'ils me sont jamais médiocres, et qu'ils sont décisifs quand ils sont sebons ils mont de constitue de c

ilque de ne rémandre que le chaptre des accidens. content es contre les ennemis.

no zie'n liup vehipunel lenthidist si vine it ing is un zie fon zie noment

moment décifife et le chef d'œuvre de la bonne conduite, est de connoître et de prendre ce moment e 25. L'abomination joint au ridicule fait le plus dangereux et le plus irremediable de tous les composés.

Les gens feibles ne plient jamais squand ils le doivent.

doivent.

Hez pa Riene ne touche et n'émeut ant des peuples, et inéme des Compagnies, qui tiennent beautoup du peuple, que la varieté des spectacles au se cha de constant des peuples que la varieté des spectacles au se constant de la varieté des se constant de la varieté des seus de la varieté de la varieté des sectacles au se constant de la varieté de la varieté des seus de la varieté de la varieté des seus de la varieté des la varieté de la varieté des la varieté de la variet

28. Les exemples du passe touchent sans dont paraison plus les hommes, que ceux de leur secle : paraison plus les hommes, que ceux de leur secle : phosovérent eup con trong à tout ce que nous avoir pas tant surpre, airque pas tant surpre, avec ceux qui en sont, que d'agir contre cetzanque y avec ceux qui en sont, que d'agir contre cetzanque y

iono reflactarellial el sello semmon est. Les plus grantiure branche au plus grantiure branche au plus grantiure de plus grantiure des partentes fuccès, l'ainstead diovuoque est representation de la representation de la

na causalaite finantiques en ansb risorros acteriares anos quitip an ab coldidaceleribanillaron disuparanis médiocres, et qu'ils font décififs quondinglament

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grand homme, que de n'être pas juste à prendre le moment décisif de la reputation. L'on ne le manque presque jamais que pour mieux prendre celui de la fortune; c'est en quoi l'on se trompe, pour l'ordinaire, doublement.

dences, c'est celle, que l'on a, de la possibilité des ressources.

36. Toute Compagnie est peuple; ainsi tout y dépend des instans.

37. Tout ce qui paroit hazardeux, et qui pourtant ne l'est pas, est presque toujours sage.

38. Les gens irréfolus prennent toujours, avec facilité, les ouvertures qui les ménent à deux chemins, et qui par conféquent ne les pressent pas d'opter.

affaires, even sequitor on supersonant ened on

raison. Rusho fla filus array xuatanana dia ariaha

41. Rien ne persuade tant les gens qui ont peu de sens que ce qu'ils n'entendent pas.

12. Il n'est pas sage de faire, dans les sactions, ou l'on n'est que sur la désensive, ce qui n'est pas presseure. Mais l'inquiétude des subalternes, est la chose la plus incommode dans ces rencontres; ils croient que que dès qu'on n'agit pas, on est perdu.

tres, qu'autant qu'ils scavent prévenir ou appaiser les murmures,

bright that old in the average honings woulder

Quand la fraieur est venue à un certain point, elle produit les mêmes effets que la témérité.

45. Il est aussi nécessaire de choisir les mots dans les grandes affaires, qu'il est superflu de les choisir

dans les petites.

46. Rien n'est plus rare ni plus difficile aux Ministres qu'un certain ménagement dans le calme qui fuit immédiatement les grandes tempêtes, parce que la flatterie y redouble, et que la défiance n'y est pas éteinte. definition of the financial

47. Il ne faut pas nous choquer si fort des fautes de ceux qui sont nos amis, que nous en donnions de l'avantage à ceux contre lesquels nous agissons.

48. Le talent d'infinuer est plus utile que celui de persuader, parce que l'on peut infinuer à tout le monde, et que l'on ne persuade presque jamais per-39. 11 py appoint de peuts pas dans les granannol

49. Dans les matiéres qui ne font pas favorables par elles-mêmes, tout changement qui n'est pas né-

ceffaire est pernicieux parce qu'il est odieux.

50. Il faut faire voir à ceux qui sont naturellement foibles toutes fortes d'abîmes : parce que c'est le vraine moien de les obliger de se jetter dans le premier cheon n'est que fur la détentive, ce quivo ruel no pnim

51. L'on doit hazarder le possible toutes les sois M que l'on se sent en état de profiter même du manque

52. Les hommes irréfolus se déterminent difficile. ment pour les moiens, quoique même ils foient détermines pour la fin.

53. C'est presque jeu sur avec les hommes fourbes, de 6e La

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the leur faire croire que l'on veut tromper deux que l'a complatance qu'us trouvent, à trivre deux que la complatance qu'us trouvent, à trivre deux que

avec les Princes, c'est que l'on est souvent obligé, par la considération de leur propre service, de deur donner des conseils dont on ne peut pas leur dire les véritables raisons dont on se peut pas leur dire les

55. Quand on se trouve obligé de faire un discours que l'on prévoit ne devoir pas agréer, l'on ne peut lui donner trop d'apparence de sincerité; parce que c'est l'unique moien de l'adoucir, q evuot possoguit

ne la peut trop éloigner quand elle est véritable; on ne la peut trop éloigner quand elle est fausse.

57. Il y a de l'inconvenient à s'engager sur des suppositions de ce que l'on croit impossible; et pourtant il n'y a rien de si commun.

58. La plûpart des hommes examinent moins les raisons de ce qu'on leur propose contre leur sentiment, que celles qui peuvent obliger, celui qui les propose, de s'en servir soulos examinent au la lambaco do

59. Tout ce qui est vuide dans les tems de faction et d'intrigue, passe pour mystérieux dans les esprits de ceux qui ne sont pas accoutumes aux grandes affaires.

en paroles à celui à qui il doit du respect, quoi qu'il s'y égale dans l'action. et paroles à celui à qui il doit du respect, quoi qu'il s'y égale dans l'action.

que accident, a fait homme public, devient presque toujours avec un peu de tenis un particulier ridieule,

la complaifance qu'ils trouvent, à se persuader que les autres ne sont point éxemts des défauts qu'ils se reconnoissent à eux mêmes, par les parties de la complaisse de la comp

aux hommes à ne pas préférer ce qui les pique dans le present, à ce qui les doit toucher bien plus essentiellement dans l'avenirle syuon et no brien C

faffaires encore plus que dans les autres, à se désendre du goût qu'on trouve pour la plaisanterie.

no 650 On ne peut affez peler les moindres mots, dans les grandes affaires branch montre de qui mon la en

660 Il n'y al que la continuation du bonheur qui fixe la plupart des amitiés. Mooni'l els e vil 42 ma 670 Quiconque affemble le peuple, l'émeut, alorg

58. La plòpart des hommes examinent mons les raisons de qu'prire prince qu'prire prince qu'un prince de la comment,

que celles qui peuvent obliger, celui our les propose, de semixaM la little de semixaM la lit

moistant and selected the selection of the selection and configuracy; it is often madness to engage in a configuracy; it is obtained in a configuracy; it is obtained to bring people afterwards to their senses, at least for a time. As in such undertakings, the danger subsists, even after the business is over; this obliges to be prudent and circumspect in the succeeding moments.

In 2. A middling understanding, being susceptible of unjust suspicions, is consequently, of all characters, the least fit to head a faction. As the most indispensal so

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fable qualification in fuch a Chief, is, to suppress, in many occasions, and to conceal in all, even the bestgrounded suspicions.

3. Nothing animates and gives strength to a commotion, to much as the ridicule of him against whom it is raised.

4 Among people used to affairs of moment, secreey is much less uncommon than is generally believed days one slagos

5. Descending to the Little, is the surest way of attaining to an equality with the Great.

6. Fashion, though powerful in all things, is not more fo in any, than in being well or ill at Court. There are times, when difgrace is a kind of fire, that purifies all bad qualities, and illuminates every good one. There are others, in which the being out of favour is unbecoming a man of character.

7. Sufferings, in people of the first rank, supply the want of virtue.

8. There is a confused kind of jumble, which practice sometimes teaches; but is never to be underthe lefs true, that at Pans, thur moissible and left

9. The greatest Powers cannot injure a man's character, whose reputation is unblemissed among his party they is the medicappulite dealing wing

10. We are as often duped by diffidence, as by confidences and more sea standard object the Pad

The greatest evils are not arrived at their utmost period, until those who are in power have left all lense of shame. At such a time, those who should obey, shake off all respect and subordina. CHE

tion.

tion. Then is lethargic indolence rouled; but rouled by convultions.

ever may be faid or thought concerning the rights of the People, or of Kings; which agree best when least mentioned.

tunate, that whatever is undertaken mult be wrong. Chance alone never throws people into fuch dilements, and they happen only to those who bring them upon themselves.

14. It is more unbecoming a Minister to say, than to do filly things.

noxious person, is always thought bad.

vith Princes, to have the power of doing good, as the will of doing evil.

17. Timorous minds are much more inclined to deliberate than to refolve.

18. It appears ridiculous to affert, but it is not the lefs true, that at Paris, during popular commotions, the most violent will not quit their homes past a stated hour.

rg. Flexibility is the most requisite qualification for the management of great affairs.

20. It is more difficult for the member of a faction to live with those of his own party, than to act against those who oppose it.

This Maxim, as well as several others, evidently prove they were written by a man subject to desposic government,

21. The

*** MISCELLANEOUS PIECES

if the want of success is likely to be attended with a degree of gloryer Middling dangers are horrid; when the loss of reputation is the inevitable conference of illustrates.

when necessary, imagnithen abgolooked upon as wife? They have, however, the advantage of never being matter of indifferency; and, when well concerted; must be decisive dw man galancia and more believed.

23. There may be circumftances, in which even prudence directs us to truft intirely to chance? 48

ments, and the height of good conduct confifts in knowing, and feizing it at too set it is a characteristic with the control of the control o

abominable, and most dangerous of all characters now

26. Weak minds hever yield when they ought &

the mob, and also upon numerous assemblies, who, in many respects, resemble mobiles as a supply of the mobile of the supply of the mobile of the supply of the mobile of the supply of t

28. Examples taken from past times have in finitely more power over the minds of men, than any of the age in which they live. Whatever we see, grows familiar; and perhaps the Consultaip of Caligula's Horse might not have associated us so much as we are apt to imagine and an and T. 04

29. Weak minds are commonly loverpowered by clamour, weak weak of a weak and of the common of the weak of the commonly loverpowered by the common loverpowered by the common

not likely to obtain.

az. When

31. The

vonable accounts is just that wherein we ought to redouble our vigilance, even in regard to the most where the loss of reputation is resemble to the most when the loss of reputation is resemble to the most when the loss of reputation is resemble to the most when the loss of reputation is reputation.

over the people; as thereby we become responsible even for what is done against our will, with some and a

that more art is required to know what should be concealed from our friends, than what sought to be done against our enemies means and years and I

feizing the decifive moment of raifing his reputation.

This is feldom neglected, but with a view to fortune by which miftake, it is not unufual to mifs both.

136. The possibility of remedying imprudent ac-

36 Every numerous affembly bismorby confequently every thing there depends upon instantaneous the mob, and also upon numerous affemblies, admit

37. Whatever measure seems hazardous, and isnin reality not forcis generally a wifelone solumn A . 82

whatever measures can admit of different issues, and consequently do not require an absolute decision, and black indifferent as a second of the consequently do not require an absolute decision.

40. There are times in which certain people are always in the right nommon one about 200 02

11. Nothing convinces persons of a weak understanding for effect bally, oas what they do not comprehend.

21. The

42. When

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42. When Factions are only upon the defensive, they ought never to do that which may be delayed? Upon such occasions, nothing is to troublesome as the restlessness of subalterns; who think a state of maction, total destruction.

43. Those who head Factions have no way of maintaining their authority, but by preventing, or quieting discontent.

effects as rathness. and abasin no more believed

is of as much consequence, as it would be superfluous in those of little moment.

11 461 During those ealms which immediately fucceed wielent storms, hotking is more difficult for Ministers, than to act properly; behause, while stattery increases, suspicions are not yet subsided.

us fo far, as to give an advantage to our enemies.

that of perfusion; as every body is open to infinuation, but scarce any to perfusion.

49. In matters of a delicate nature, all unnecessary

to adopt our opinion, is to frighten them from all others, by magnifying their danger.

ourselves in a situation to reap some advantage,

alignature foliated men are diffident in refolving upon

MISCELLANEOUS PIECES. 321 the Means, even when they are determined upon the End.

- 73. It is almost a fure game, with crafty men, to make them believe we intend to deceive those whom we mean to ferve.
- 54. One of the greatest difficulties with Princes is, the being often obliged, in order to serve them, to give advice the true reasons of which we dare not mention.
- 55. The faying things which we foresee will not be pleasing, can only be softened by the greatest appearance of sincerity.
- 56. We ought never to trifle with favour. If real, we should hastily seize the advantage; if pre-tended, avoid the allurement.
- 57. It is very inconfequent to enter into engagements upon suppositions we think impossible, and yet it is very usual.
- 53. The generality of mankind pay less attention to arguments urged against their opinion, than to such as may engage the disputant to adopt their own.
- 59. In times of faction and intrigue, whatever appears inert, is reclaimed invitorious by those who are not accustomed to affairs of moment.
- 60. It is never allowable in an inferior, to equal himself in words to a superior, although he may rival him in actions.
- 61. Every man whom chance alone has, by some accident, made a public character, hardly ever fails Vol. IV.

MISCELLANEOUS PIECES.

of becoming, in a short time, a ridiculous private one.

62. The greatest imperfection of men is, the complacency with which they are willing to think others not free from faults, of which they are them-

felves conscious.

63. Experience only can teach men not to prefer what strikes them for the present moment, to what will have much greater weight with them hereafter.

64. In the management of important business, all turn to raillery must be more carefully avoided than in any other.

65. In momentous transactions, words cannot be

fufficiently weighed.

304 316

66. The permanency of most friendships depends upon the continuity of good fortune.

67. Whoever affembles the multitude, will raise commotions. The head shall and there would End are

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and 4-156 forthering of Martin College Williams

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Lord

Lord CHESTERFIELD'S Remarks upon the foregoing MAXIMS.

HAVE taken the trouble of extracting and collecting, for your use, the foregoing Political Maxims of the Cardinal de Retz, in his Memoirs. They are not aphorisms of his invention, but the true and just observations of his own experience, in the course of great business. My own experience attests the truth of them all. Read them over with attention as here above, and then read with the same attention, and tout de suite, the Memoirs; where you will find the facts and characters from whence those observations are drawn, or to which they are applied: and they will reciprocally help to fix each other in your mind. I hardly know any book to necessary for a young man to read and remember. You will there find, how great business is really carried on; very differently from what people, who have never been concerned in it, imagine. You will there fee what Courts and Courtiers really are, and observe that they are neither so good as they should be, nor so bad as they are thought by most people. The Court Poet, and the fullen, cloiftered Pedant, are equally mistaken in their notions, or at least in the accounts they give us of them. You will observe the coolness in general, the perfidy in some cases, and the truth in a very few, of Court friendships. This will teach you the prudence of a general diftruft : Y 2

Cardinal Mazarin was a great knave, but no great man; much more cunning than able; fcandaloufly false, and dirtily greedy. As for his enemy, Cardinal

dinal de Retz, I can truly call him a man of great parts, but I cannot call him a great man. He never was fo much fo as in his retirement. The Ladies had then a great, and have always had some share in State affairs in France; the fpring and the streams of their politics have always been, and always will be, the interest of their present Lover, or their resentment against a discarded and persidious one. Money is their great object; of which they are extremely greedy, if it coincides with their arrangement with the Lover for the time being: but true glory, and public good, never enter into their heads. They are always governed by the man they love, and they always govern the man who loves them. He or she, who loves the most, is always governed by him or her who loves the leaft. Madame de Montbazon governed Monsieur de Beaufort, who was fond of her; whereas the was only proud of his rank and popularity. The Drudi for the time being always governed Madame and Mademoifelle de Chevreuse, and steered their politics. Madame de Longueville governed her brother the Prince de Conti, who was in love with her: but Marfillac, with whom she was in love, governed her. In all female politics, the head is certainly not the part that takes the lead: the true and fecret spring lies lower and deeper. La Palatine, whom the Cardinal celebrates as the ableft and most sensible woman he ever met with, and who feems to have acted more lystematically and consequentially than any of them,

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ftarts aside however, and deviates from her plan, whenever the interests or the inclinations of La Vieuville, her Lover, require it. I will add (though with great submission to a late friend of yours at Paris) that no woman ever yet, either reasoned or acted long together consequentially; but some little thing, some love, some resentment, some present momentary interest, some supposed slight, or some humour, always breaks in upon, and oversets their most prudent resolutions and schemes.

- sattenings to 20 office or markly a sur-hopping and office of Suizantien for sea three to the secretain the suite search Antendary Any mineralists in the man of Tobas out torm to M. The Hast Prayed, Borgaret, and substituting on the restriction of epituaction. which thought we had in the could not sturn obtain.
But sait of a function with the configuration be reisk had doraign Proof not himself, the highest on the and preased ment fand wants of them, nearly elanding his Majedty and rig Royal Parally a which may write obacty prefer the Beeth lervice to any she to all 200 : get die word ni new cans indie this ab proof wellfare argonemes orged in justificeunalogistic Report of this most facted flasting are rereiffing to be the gue ours, and too wrefened to be regrounded univered, halets by the universumite Bottle. cofficients reportate here been a a manney, declared and e reserved to the inches be about the duty of Co ment become meets en en en en belief the de to get the series.

CONSIDERATIONS upon the Repeal of the Limitation, relative to Foreigners, in the Act of Settlement.

THE particular Limitation, relative to Foreigners, in the Act of Settlement, and now to be repealed, was marked out as peculiarly facred, by the first Parliament, and that no uncomplaisant one, of the late King, by enacting, that that Limitation should be inserted in all future acts of Naturalization; and it was so, even in the act for naturalizing the Prince of Orange, the King's son-in-law.

But, it seems, Messieurs Prevot, Bouquet, and others, are now to receive a mark of distinction, which the King's son-in-law could not then obtain: But, can the same indulgence, hereaster, ever be refused to foreign Protestant Princes, of the highest birth, and greatest merit, and, many of them, nearly related to his Majesty and the Royal Family; who may, very probably, prefer the British service to any other?

The poor military arguments, urged in justification of the Repeal of this most facred Law, are too tristing to be the true ones, and too wretched to be seriously answered, unless by the unfortunate British Officers; who are hereby, in a manner, declared and enacted to be incapable of doing the duty of Captains, Majors, &c.

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Some other reason, therefore, must be sought for; and, perhaps, it is but too easily found.

May it not be periculum facianus in anima vili? If this goes down, it shall be followed; some foreign Prince, of allowed merit, shall make the first application to the Crown, and to the Parliament, for the same favour which was shown to Messieurs Prevot, Bouquet, and Company. Can either of them, in common decency, refuse it? Besides that, perhaps a time may come, when Generals, and superior Officers, may be as much wanted in England, as great Captains and Majors are now wanted in America.

Great evils have always such trisling beginnings, to smooth the way for them insensibly; as Cardinal de Retz most justly observes, when he says, that he is persuaded, that the Romans were carried on by such shades and gradations of mischief and extravagancy, as not to have been much surprised or alarmed, when Caligula declared his intention of making his horse Consul. So that, by the natural progression of precedents, the next generation may probably see, and even without surprise or abhorrence, Foreigners commanding your troops, and voting the supplies for them in both Houses of Parliament.

As to the pretended utility of these foreign Heroes, it is impossible to answer such arguments seriously. What experience evinces the necessity? Cape Breton, the strongest place in America, was very irregularly taken, in the last war, by our irregular American troops. Sir William Johnson lately beat, and

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took

at the head of his regular forces: and General Braddock, who was most judiciously selected out of the whole British army, to be our Scipio Americanus, was very irregularly destroyed, by unseen, and to this day unknown enemies.

How will these foreign Heroes agree with the English Officers of the same corps, who are, in a manner, by act of Parliament, declared unfit for their business, till instructed in it by the great foreign masters of Homicide. Will they not even be more inclined to advise, than to obey their Colonel; to interpret, than to execute his orders? Will they co-operate properly with our American troops and Officers, whom they will certainly look upon, and treat, as an inexperienced and undisciplined rabble? Can it possibly be otherwise? or, can it be wondered at, when those Gentlemen know, that they are appointed Officers by one Act of Parliament, and at the expense of another, the most facred of the statute-book?

O! but there is to be but one half of the Officers, of this thundering Legion, who are to be Foreigners: so much the worse: for then, according to the principle laid down, it can be but half disciplined. Besides, the less the object, to which a very great object is sacrificed, the more absurd, and the more suspicious such a sacrifice becomes. At first, this whole legion was to consist of all Foreigners, Field-officers and all; which, upon the principle of the absolute utility and necessity of foreign Officers, was much

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more rational; but, thus mitigated, as it is called, is a thouland times more abfurd. And how does it stand now? Why truly, the facred Act of Settlement is to be repealed, and in the tenderest part, for the sake of some foreign Captains and Majors, who are to be commanded by British superior Officers, who, by this act of Parliament, are supposed not to know their trade.

One has heard, (but one hears a thoufand false reports) that this abfurd scheme was, some time ago, quashed by his Majesty's own prudence and goodness: and, from the rightness of the thing, I am inclined to believe that it is true: and I am fure I will not suppose, that ever that might be among the reasons for resuming it in this shape, and forcing it down the throats of the reluctant Nation: but this is certain, that it was once dropped, and at fome expence too. The foreign Heroes were contented with Money instead of Laurels, and were going away about their own business; but, perhaps, a condescension to the unanimous wishes of the whole people of England, at least, was looked upon as a dangerous precedent, and the repeal of the Act of Settlement as an useful one. But however I will have candour enough to believe, that this was merely an abfurd, wrong-headed meafure; for, if I did not, I must think it the wickedest that ever was pushed. on all your time to consider

1 with the province of the west of the same time your

Hower are but overchandless as well

AXIOMS IN TRADE.

O fell, upon the whole, more than you buy. To buy your materials as cheap, and to fell your manufactures as dear as you can.

To ease the manufacturers, as much as possible, of all taxes and burthens.

To lay small or no duties upon your own manufactures exported, and to lay high duties upon all foreign manufactures imported.

To lay small or no duties upon foreign materials, that are necessary for your own manufactures; but to lay very high duties upon, or rather totally prohibit, the exportation of fuch of your own materials as are necessary for the manufactures of other countries; as Wool, Fuller's earth, &c.

To keep the interest of money low, that people may place their money in trade.

Not to imagine (as people commonly do) that it is either prudent or possible to prohibit the exportation of your gold and filver, whether coined or uncoined. For, if the balance of trade be against you, that is, if you buy more than you fell, you must necessarily make up that difference in money; and your Bullion or your Coin, which are in effect the fame thing, must and will be exported, in spight of all laws. But if you sell more than you buy, then foreigners must do the same by you, and make up their deficiency in Bullion or Coin.

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Coin. Gold and filver are but merchandize, as well as Cloth or Linen: and that nation that buys the leaft, and fells the most, must always have the most money.

A free trade is always carried on with more advantage to the public, than an exclusive one by a company. But the particular circumstances of some trades may sometimes require a joint stock and exclusive privileges.

All monopolies are destructive to trade.

To get, as much as possible, the advantages of manufacturing and freight.

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more than he can do at pictont tour proud your Petitioner, having had the honour of ferving your Petitioner, having had the honour of ferving your Majetty in feveral very lucrative employments, feems thereby intitled to a lucrative retreat from bulinels, and to enjoy origin cam dignitire at that, that is, letture and a large penfion

Your Petitioner hursely refunces, that he has at least, a common carried tuch a pension he has a vote in the most engus afterby in the world, he has an estate that pure him above wanting it, but he has, at the same time (though he says it) an elevation of sentiment, that makes him not only define, but sparson, dread Sir, an expression you are used too sass upon at

That your Petitioner is little apt, and always unwilling, to speak advanta, quilty of himself , but as, after all, some justice is due to one's felf, as well as to others, he begs leave to repretent, That his

To the KING's most Excellent MAJESTY,

The humble PETITION of Puttre Earl of CHESTERVIELD, Knight of the most noble Orantage to the public than a strategy of the company. But the particular circumstants of former

trades may lometimes Persine a join, Kraway &

THAT your Petitioner, being rendered, by deafnels, as wheles and infignificant as most of his equals and cottomporaries are by nature, hopes, in common with them, to share your Majesty's Royal favour and bounty; whereby he may be enabled either to save or spend, as he shall think proper, more than he can do at present.

That your Petitioner, having had the honour of ferving your Majesty in several very lucrative employments, seems thereby intitled to a lucrative retreat from business, and to enjoy otium cum dignitate; that is, leifure and a large pension.

Your Petitioner humbly prefumes, that he has, at least, a common claim to such a pension; he has a vote in the most august assembly in the world; he has an estate that puts him above wanting it; but he has, at the same time (though he says it) an elevation of sentiment, that makes him not only defire, but (pardon, dread Sir, an expression you are used to) insit upon it.

That your Petitioner is little apt, and always unwilling, to fpeak advantageously of himself; but as, after all, some justice is due to one's-felf, as well as to others, he begs leave to represent, That his loyalty

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loyalty to your Majesty has always been unshaken, even in the worst of times; That, particularly, in the late unnatural rebellion, when the Pretender advanced as far as Derby, at the head of, at least, three thousand undisciplined men, the flower of the Scottish Nobility and Gentry, your Petitioner did not join him, as unquestionably he might have done, had he been so inclined; but, on the contrary, raised sixteen companies, of one hundred men each, at the public expence, in support of your Majesty's undoubted right to the Imperial Crown of these Realms; which distinguished proof of his loyalty is, to this hour, unrewarded.

Your Majesty's Petitioner is well aware, that your Civil List must necessarily be in a low and languid state, after the various, frequent, and profuse evacuations which it has of late years undergone; but, at the same time, he presumes to hope, that this argument, which seems not to have been made use of against any other person whatsoever, shall not, in this single case, be urged against him; and the less so, as he has good reasons to believe, that the desiciencies of the Pension-fund are by no means the last that will be made good by Parliament.

Your Petitioner begs leave to observe, That a similar pension is disgraceful and opprobrious, as it intimates a shameful necessity on one part, and a degrading sort of charity on the other; but that a great one implies dignity and affluence on one sides on the other, regard and esteem; which, doubtless, your Majesty must entertain in the highest degree,

MISCELLANEOUS PIECES 335

for those great personages whose respectable names stand upon your Eleemosynary list. Your Petitioner, therefore, humbly persuades himself, upon this principle, that less than three thousand pounds a year will not be proposed to him: if made up gold the more agreeable; if for life, the more marketable.

Your Petitioner persuades himself, that your Majesty will not suspect this his humble application to proceed from any mean, interested motive, of which he has always had the utmost abhorrence. No, Sir, he confesses his own weakness; Honour alone is his object; Honour is his passion; Honour is dearer to him than life. To Honour he has always facrificed all other considerations; and upon this generous principle, singly, he now solicits that honour, which, in the most shining times, distinguished the greatest men of Greece; who were sed at the expence of the public.

Upon this Honour, so facred to him as a Peer, so tender to him as a Man, he most solemnly assures your Majesty, that, in case you shall be pleased to grant him this his humble request, he will gratefully and honourably support, and promote with zeal and vigour, the worst measure that the worst Minister can ever suggest to your Majesty; but, on the other hand, should he be singled out, marked, and branded by a refusal, he thinks himself obliged in Honour to declare, that he will, to the utmost of his power, oppose the best and wisest measures, that your Majesty yourself can ever dictate.

And your Majesty's Petitioner shall ever pray.

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A Chapter of the Garter is to be held at St. James's next Friday; in which Prince Edward, the Prince of Orange, the Earls of Lincoln, Winchelsen, and Cardigan, are to be elected Knights Companions of the Order of the Garter. Though folely nominated by the Crown, they are faid to be checked; because there is a pretended election. All the Knights are furnithoned to attend the Sovereign ar a Chapter, to be held on fuch a day, in order to clock to many new Knights into the vacant Stalls of the deceased ones; accordingly they meet in the Council Chamber, where they all fit down according to their feniority, at a long table, where the Sovereigh presides. There every Knight pretends to write a He of those for whom he intends to vote; and, in effect, writes down mine marries, feeth as he thinks proper, taking care, however, to infert the names of those who are really to be elected, then the Bishop of Salibury, who is always the Chancellor of the Order, goes round the cable, and takes the paper of each Knight, pretends to look into them, and then declares the majority of votes to be for those perfons who were nominated by the Crown. Upon this declaration, two of the old Knights go into the outward from, where the new ones are attending, and introduce them, one after another, according to their

their ranks. The new Knight kneels down before the King, who puts the riband about his neck; then he turns to the Prince of Wales, or, in his absence, to the oldest Knight, who puts the Garter about his leg. This is the ceremony of the Chapter; that of the Installation, which is always performed in St. George's Chapel at Windfor, completes the whole thing; for till then the new Knights cannot wear the Star, unless by a particular dispenfation from the Sovereign, which is very feldom granted. All ceremonies are in themselves very filly things; but yet, a man of the world should know them. They are the outworks of Manners and Decency, which would be too often broken in upon, if it were not for that defence, which keeps the enemy at a proper distance. It is for that reafon that I always treat fools and coxcombs with great ceremony; true good-breeding not being a fufficient barrier against them. The knowledge of the world teaches one to deal with different people differently, and according as characters and fituations require. The versatile ingenium is a most essential point; and a man must be broke to it while he is young. Have it always in your thoughts, as I. have you in mine. Adieu.

P.S. This moment I receive your letter of the 15th N.S. with which I am very well pleased: it informs me, and, what I like still better, it hows me that you are informed.

the because of his new Kinight station down thance won A MF Rad G MAEN Till bie.

there he carne colone in acce of maice. British his TOUR riding, fencing, and dancing, constantly at the Academy, will, I hope, lengthen you out a little; therefore, pray take a great deal of those exercises: for I would very fain have you be at least five feet eight inches high, as Mr. Harte once wrote me word that he hoped you would. Mr. Pelham likewise told me, that you speak German and French as fluently and correctly as a Saxon or a Parisian. I am very glad of both: take care not to forget the former; there is no danger of your forgetting the latter. As I both thank and applaud you for having hitherto, employed yourself so well abroad. I must again repeat to you, that the manner in which you shall now employ it, at Paris, will be finally decifive of your fortune, figure, and character in the world, and consequently of my esteem and kindness, Eight or nine months determine the whole, which whole is very near compleat. It consists of this only : to retain and increase the learning you have already acquired to add to it the still more useful knowledge of the World; and to adorn both, with the Manners, the Address, the Air, and the Graces of a Man of Fashion. Without the last, I will say of your youth and your knowledge, what Horace fays to Venus: in mond lift odd I nanw .bus .tm am ohi

Parum comis sine te Juventas, Mercuriufque. AFRAG.

The two great subjects of conversation now at Paris are, the dispute between the Crown and the Clergy, and between the Crown and the States of Brittany: inform yourfelf thoroughly of both; which will let you into the most material parts of the French history and constitution. There are four letters printed, and very well written, against the pretended rights and immunities of the Clergy; to which there is an Answer, very well written too, in defence of those immunities. Read them both with attention; and also all representations, memorials, and whatever shall appear for or against the claims of the States of Brittany. I dare fay, that ninety-nine in a hundred, of the English at Paris, do not give themselves the trouble of inquiring into those disputes; but content themselves with saying, "that there is a con-"founded buftle and rout between the King and the " Priefts, and between the King and the States of "Brittany; but that, for their parts, they do not " trouble their heads about them; fight Dog, fight "Bear." But with submission to them, these are objects worthy the attention and inquiries of a man of fense and business.

"Adieu, my dear clild! Yours tenderly.

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We have been favoured with the following letters, written by the late EARL of CHESTERFIELD to different persons.

LETTRE de recommandation, en faveur de Madame Clefand, adreffée à Madame de Tencin.

Londres, ce 20 Aouft, V. S.

OMBATTU par des mouvemens bien différents, j'ai long tems ballancé, avant que d'oser me déterminer, à vous envoier cette lettre. Je fentois toute l'indifcrétion d'une telle démarche, et à quel point c'étoit abuser de la bonté que vous avez eu pour moi, pendant mon fejour à Paris, que de vous la redemander pour un autre: mais sollicité vivement par une Dame que son mérite met à l'abri des refus, et porte, d'ailleurs, à profiter du moindre prétexte pour rappeller un souvenir qui m'est si précieux, que le vôtre ; le penchant (comme il arrive presque toujours) a triomphé de la discrétion; et je fatisfais en niême tems à mes propres inclinations et aux instances de Madame Cleland, qui aura l'honneur de vous rendre cette lettre.

Je scais par expérience, Madame (car j'en suis moi-même un exemple) que ce n'est pas la premiere affaire de la forte, à laquelle vôtre réputation, qui ne se fe renferme point dans les bornes de la France, vous a exposée : mais je me flatte, aussi, que vous ne la trouverez pas la plus défagréable. Un mérite supérusie d'eas étoit embarallant : car, après ce que l'ave rieur, un esprit juste, délicat, orné par la lecture de tout ce qu'il y a de bon dans toutes les langues, et un grand usage du monde, qui ont acquis à Madame Cleland l'estime et la considération de tout ce qu'il y a d'honnêtes gens icy, me rassurent sur la liberté, que je prends, de vous la recommander; et me persuadent même que vous ne m'en sçaurez pas mauvais gré.

Si vous me demandez, par hasard, pourquoi elle m'a choisi pour son introducteur chez vous, et pourquoi elle a cra, que je m'étois acquis ce droit là ; je vous dirai naturellement, que c'est moi, qui en suis cause. En cela j'ai suivi l'exemple de la plupart des voïageurs, qui, à leur retour, se sont valoir chez eux, par leurs prétendues liaisons avec ce qu'il y a de plus distingué, chez les autres. Les Rois, les Princes et les Ministres les ont toujours comblé de leurs grâces. Et moïennant ce saux étalage d'honneurs qu'ils n'ont point recu, ils acquiérrent une considération qu'ils ne méritent point.

J'ai vanté vos bontés pour moi; je les ai exagérées même, s'il étoit possible; et ensin, pour ne vous rien cacher, ma vanité a poussé l'effronterie au point même de me donner pour vôtre ami favori, et ensant de la maison. Quand Madame Cleland m'a pris au mot, et m'a dit; " Je vais bientôt en France; je n'y " ambitionne rien tant, que l'honneur de connoître " Madame de Tencin; vous qui êtes si bien là, il ne s' vous coutera rien de me donner une lettre pour de celle."

Le cas étoit embarassant: car, après ce que j'avois Z 3 dit, dit, un refus auroit été trop choquant à Madame Cleland, et l'aveu, que je n'étois pas en droit de le faire, trop humiliant pour mon amour propre. Si bien que je me fuis trouvé réduit à risquer le pacquet, et je crois même que je l'aurois fait, si je n'avois pas eu l'honneur de vous connoitre du tout, plûtot que de me donner le démenti sur un article si sensible.

Aïant donc franchi le pas; je voudrois bien en profiter, pour vous exprimer les fentimens de reconnoisfance que j'ai, et que j'aurai toujours des bontés que vous m'avez temoigné à Paris; je voudrois austi vous exprimer tout ce que je pense des qualités qui distinguent votre cœur et votre esprit, de tous les autres: mais cela me méneroit également au delà des bornes d'une lettre, et au dessus de mes forces.

Je souhaitterois que Monsieur de Fontenelle voulut bien s'en charger pour moi. Sur cet article, je puis dire, sans vanité, que nous pensons de même; avec cette différence, qu'il vous le diroit avec cet esprit, cette délicatesse, et cette élégance, qui sui sont propres, et seules convenables au sujét.

Permettez donc, Madame, que destitué de tous ces avantages de l'esprit, je vous assure simplement des sentimens de mon cœur, de l'estime, de la vénération, et de l'attachement respectueux, avec lequel je serai toute ma vie, Madame,

Boy Additioned Distance of the best sed seed on the best

Je crois que vous me pardonnerez bien, si je vous supplie de faire mes complimens à Monsieur de Fontenelle.

of all moonie of the more hore

TRANSLATION

LETTER of Recommendation, in favour of Mrs. Cleland, to Madame de Tencin.

London, August the 20th, O. S. A GITATED by various thoughts, I have long been in suspence, before I durst resolve to fend this letter. I felt all the indifcretion of fuch a step, and how much it would be trespassing upon the goodness I had experienced from you during my stay at Paris, to require the same for another. A Lady, whose merit secures her from a refusal, has entreated me in the most pressing manner, and my own inclinations have concurred, to make use of the first opportunity, to recall a remembrance which will always give me pleafure; fo that, inclination having (as it generally happens) overpowered difcretion, my own wishes, and Mrs. Cleland's defires will both be gratified, by her having the honour of presenting this letter to you.

I know, Madam, by experience, and am myfelf a proof, that this is not the first affair of that kind, which your reputation, not confined within the limits of France, has brought upon you; but I flatter myfelf that you will not look upon this as the most disagreeable. Superior merit, exquisite and refined sense, adorned by the knowledge of the best authors in every language, and a thorough usage of the world, have acquired Mrs. Cleland the esteem and consideration

MOLLARISMART

344 MISCELLANBOUS PIECES

These motives encourage me to take the liberty of recommending her to you, and even persuade me that you will not be offended at it.

If, by chance, you should ask why this Lady has made choice of me to be her introductor towards you, and how she came to believe that I had any such right; I will candidly own, that I myself have been the cause of it; and, in this respect, I have sollowed the example of most travellers; who, at their return to their own country, endeavour to raise their reputation, by boasting of imaginary connections with the most distinguished people abroad. Kings, Princes, and Ministers, have always loaded them with favours: in consequence of those boasted homours, which they never received, they often acquire a degree of consideration which they do not deserve.

I have boafted of your goodness to me; I have even, if possible, exaggerated it; and, in short (not to conceal any thing from you) Vanity has even drove me to declare that I was your favourite friend, and domesticated in your house. Mrs. Cleland immediately seized this opportunity, to say; "I am going to France soon; I wish for nothing to much, as to have the honour of knowing Madame de Tencin: since you are so much connected, you can easily give me a letter for her."

This was an intricate affair; for after what I had faid, Mrs. Clefand might have been shocked by a refusal, and my self-love would have been soo cruelly

LETTER

hurt,

hurt, if I had owned that I had no right to do any fuch thing. So that I find myfelf under a necessity of running all hazards; and I really believe, that even if I had not been known to you at all, I should ftill have done it, rather than have confessed to mortifying a thing of state policy of our to a

a As the first step is now taken; I wish to make the best use of it, by expressing to you the sentiments of gratitude which I have, and ever shall retain, for your goodness to me, during my flay at Paris, I wish it were in my power to tell you also, what I think of those perfections, which distinguish your heart and your mind so eminently from all others; but this would carry me beyond the bounds of a letter and I is, indeed, more than I know how to express, Mr. de Fontenelle might undertake this for me; for too fay the truth. I know that our opinions upon that Subject coincide; with this difference only! that he would express those fertiments with all that energy delicacy, and elegancy, fo peculiar to him, and fo very proper for the Subject. estar hat leanne Bra avorb

Permit me then Madam, though deflicate of all these advantages of mind, to affire you simply of the fentiments of my heart; and of the eftermi veneration, and respectful attachment with which I shall always remains Yours &c. sie woy sauthmais I

can eatherpive mera lettercear P. S. I am persuaded that you will forgive my troubling you to make my compliments to Mr. de Fontenelle. retutal, and opened flovely mild hear hi

facts which when alanched his tolument of the blowness controller

herefore I had in Chielle archivation in the cord denuce

nin ost mentanish subt amont Londres, ce i Janvier, V. S.

liplishave concili, and en chambere Eigh A CAMPE

E Timbaniv

JE ne suis pas diseur de bonne avanture, ains au contraire, car je vous annonce que ces quatre billets, que j'ai choisi avec tant d'attention, et que j'estimois, l'un portant l'autre, à vingt mille piéces au moins, se sont avisés d'être tous blancs.

Je ne me console de vôtre malheur que par les belles réflexions qu'il me fait faire, et par la morale utile que j'en tire, pour le reste de mes jours.— Oui! Je vois bien, à present, que toute la prudence humaine, les mesures les plus sages, et les projets les mieux concertés sont frivoles, si la Fortune, cette Divinité inconstante, bisarre et seminine, n'est pas d'humeur à les favoriser. Car que pouvoit-on saire de plus que je n'ai fait, et qu'en pouvoit-il arriver de moins?

Se donnera-t'on, après cela, du mouvement, formera-t'on des plans, et s'inquiétera-t'on, pour les choses de ce monde? J'ose dire, que si ces restexions, aussi judicieuses que nouvelles, sont la même impression sur vôtre esprit qu'elles ont fait sur le mien, elles vous vaudront plus, que tout ce que vous auriez pû gagner dans la lotterie.

Vous êtes bien querelleuse, Madame; jusqu'à m'accorder un talent, que je n'ai pas, pour pouvoir, après, me reprocher de ne le pas emploier avec vous; et je m'épuise, dites vous, en bon ton, avec Madame

de Monconseil. Quelle accusation injuste, et denuée de toute vraisemblance! Un Milord Anglois avec le bon ton! Ce font deux choses absolument contradictoires : ou, pour m'expliquer plus clairement, et simplifier mon idée; ce sont deux Etres hétérogenes, dont l'existence de l'un implique, nécéssairement, la privation de l'autrement solve strates solventes

Me voici donc justifié dans toutes les formes de la logique ; et si vous n'en ètes pas contente, Madame de Monconseil, qui a en main mes pieces justificatives, pourra vous en convaincre. Au reste, si j'en possédois cant soit peu, ce nouvel an me fourniroit une belle occasion de l'étaler. Et quoique depuis plus de cinq mille ans, toute la terre ait traité ce fujet; je vous dirois quelque chose de nouveau, de galant, et d'obscur, dont on ne s'est jamais avisé auparavant : vôtre mérite, et les sentimens de mon oceur, y seroient alembiqués, jusqu'à la plus fine quinteffence to win and ballet the trial of supervisor

Long as well as attation, and now void of all pro-TRANSLATION.

London, January the ift, O. S.

The Estate and Selection of the MACAMORE,

THAVE no skill in fortune-telling: for I must acquaint you, that the four lottery tickets I had chosen with so much care, and valued one with another at the rate of (at least) twenty thousand pounds, are all-come out blanks. How are all the areas and all the areas

My only confolation in this misfortune is, the fine reflections which it occasions, and the most useful Moral drawn from it, for the rest of my days. Now, I plainly

I plaintly see that all human prudence, the wisest projects, and the best concerted schemes, are vain and frivolous, if Fortune, that capricious, inconstant, and feminine Deity, in non disposed to favour theme for what more could have been done than I did, and what less could have happened?

After such a reverse; shall we ever take pains, form projects, or be uneasy concerning worldly events? I will venture to say, that if such reflections, equally judicious as new, make the same impression upon your mind, that they do upon mine, they will be more valuable, than all you could have won in the Lottery.

Surely, Madam, you must have a great inclination to quarrel, since you allow me to be in possession of a talent which I really have not; in order to reproach me with not availing myself of it towards you, while, say you, "I exhaust that talent of saying agreeable "things in sayour of Madame de Monconseil." What an unjust accusation, and how void of all probability! An English Lord, and say things in fashionable French phrases! This is quite contradictory; or to explain myself more clearly, and to simplify my idea, I must answer, that they are two heterogeneous Beings; the existence of the one necessarily implying the non-existence of the other.

Now I think my justification complete, according to all the rules of logic; but if that does not suffice. Madame de Monconseil has it in her power to convince you, by producing my letters.

Was I possessed of the talent you suppose, the

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New-year would be a proper occasion to diplay it on; and, although that subject has been treated by the whole world for above five thousand years, yet I should then say something new, gallant, and unintelligible, which never before was thought of. Your merit, and the sentiments of my heart, would then be distilled to the most refined quinteffence.

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A Londres, ce gme Fevrier, O. S.

A DIEU donc toute coquetterie, de part et d'autre, et vive la vraie et solide amitié! Heureux ceux qui peuvent s'y attendre : c'est le gros lot, dans la lotterie du monde, contre lequel il y a des millions de billets blancs.

S'il pouvoit y avoir quelque chose de flatteur dans mon amitié; je dirois, que nous pourrions nous flatter que la nôtre seroit également vraie et durable; puisqu'elle est à l'abri de tous ees petits incidens, qui brouillent la plupart des autres. D'abord, nous sommes de différent sexe, article assez important; et qui nous garantit de ces désiances et de ces rivalités, sur les objets les plus sensibles, et contre lesquels la plus belle amitié du monde ne tient point. En second lieu; il n'entre point d'amour dans nôtre fait; qui, quoique, à la verité, il donne un grand seu à l'amitié, pendant un certain tems, la slamme de l'un venant à s'éteindre, on

voit bientôt les cendres de l'autre . Et enfin (ce qui me regarde uniquement) nous ne nous voïons pas trop. Vous ne me connoissez que par mon bon côté; et vous ne voïez pas ces moments de langueur, d'humeur, et de chagrin, qui causent, si souvent, le dégout ou le repentir des liaisons qu'on a formé, et qui sont, qu'on se dit à soi-même; L'auroit-on crû? Qui l'auroit dit? Comme on peut se tromper aux dehors? Et la perspective, dans laquelle vous me voïez, m'est si favorable, qu'elle me console un peu della lontananza, ou je suis obligé de vous chercher.

Une caillette, a beaux sentimens, critiqueroit impitoïablement ceux-ci comme tres indélicats, mais en sont-ils moins naturels pour cela? Et ne sommes nous pas, pour la plûpart, redevables de nos vertus à des situations et des circonstances un peu sortuites? Au moins j'ai assez d'humilité pour le croire; et (si je voulois dire toute la verité) assez d'expérience, de moi-même, pour le seavoir. En tous cas; tel que je suis, je vous suis acquis, et vous voiez que je suis de trop bonne sois pour vous surfaire dans le prix de l'acquisition que vous avez faite.

Vouz avez beau faire les honneurs de vôtre païs, et désavouer vôtre propriété exclusive des Graces; il faut convenir, pourtant, que la France est leur sejour, ou plûtot leur païs natal. Si elles pouvoient se fâcher contre vous, dont il y a peu d'apprence; elles seroient piquées, au point de vous quitter,

quitter, de ce que vous les envoiez promener dans un païs, ou elles ne connoiffent, ni ne font connues de personne; et si par hasard je les connoissois, ce ne seroit que pour les avoir vues si fouvent chez langueur d'humeur, et ele chagrin, étil caulen auov

Il est bien sur que les Graces sont un don de la nature, qu'on ne peut pas acquérire l'art en peut relever l'éclat, mais il faut que la nature ait donné le fond. On voit cela en tout. Combien de gens ne dansent-ils pas parfairement bien, mais sans grace; comme il y en a qui dansent très mal avec beaucoup : combien trouve-t'-on d'esprits vigoureux et délicats, qui instruits et ornés par tout ce que l'art et l'étude peuvent faire, ne plaisent pourtant guére. faute de ces graces naturelles, qui ne s'acquiérent point: chaque païs a ses talens, aussi bien que ses fruits et ses denrées particulieres. Nous pensons creux, et nous aprofondissons; les Italiens pensent baut, et se perdent dans les nües : vous tenez le milieu; on vous voit, on vous fuit, on vous aimeas b

Servez vous, Madame, de tout ce que cet esprit et ces graces, que je vous connois, peuvent faire en ma faveur, et dites, je vous en supplie, tout ce qu'elles vous suggéreront, à Monsieur de Matignon, de ma part. Mon cœur ne vous désavouera pas sur tout ce que vous poutrez lui dire de plus fort, à propos du mariage de Mademoiselle sa fille : mais ne vous bornez pas à ce seul article, car il n'y en a pas un, au monde, qui peut le regarder, auquel je ne prendrois pas également part. Ce seroit abuser de sa bonté

and least the contract of the

que de lui écrire moi-même: une messagére comme vous me fera bien plus d'honneur, et à lui plus de de trenomes et il ar hard in to commune ob

Adieu, Madame. Je rougis de la longueur de ma lettre.

TRANSLATION. rather will be for the died below action

Il oft bidne fine com log Grades Cent unauton de

London, February the 9th, O. S.

DIEU then to all coquetry, on both fides, and prosperity to real and folid friendship ! In this lottery of the world, happy are those who can obtain that greatest prize, to which there are millions of blanks. If any thing could be pleating in my friendthip, I would urge that we have reason to flatter ourfelves, that with us, friendship may be equally true and permanent, fince ours will be unattended by all those little incidents, which are the bane of others. We are of different fexes; an important article, and fuch a one as prevents those suspicions, and sentiments of rivalihip, which the finest friendships that ever were formed cannot withftand. Secondly, we are free from love, which, though it may, during a time, add warmth to friendship; yet, when the flames of the one begin to extinguish, you foon perceive the ashes of the other. And lastly (but this relates only to myfelf) we do not fee one another too frequently. You view me in the best light, and do not perceive those moments of languor, caprice, or ill-humour, which are fo generally the occasion of dislike, cause us to repent of the connections we have formed, and are the motives that occasion our saying, Who would have thought it? Who could have imagined it? How one may be deceived by outward appearances! The distant point from which you view me, is so very favourable, that it affords me fome confolation for being under the necessity of remaining so far from you.

A trifling woman, with pretentions to refined fentiments, would criticife these unmercifully, as very indelicate; but are they the less natural? And are not most of us beholden for our virtue to particular circumstances, or to accidental causes? As for me, I have humility to own, and (were I to tell the whole truth) felf-experience to confirm it. At all events, fuch as I am, you may dispose of me; and you see I am too ingenuous to deceive you, by enhancing the merits of the person who is intirely yours.

It is in vain you strive to do the honours of your country, by difavowing your exclusive right to the Graces; for it must be confessed that France is their abode, or rather their native country. It is highly improbable that they can be angry with you; but were that possible, they would be provoked to leave you, as a punishment for sending them a rambling, into a country where they neither know, nor are known by any mortal. If, by chance, I had any knowledge of those Goddesses, it could only be from having feen them fo frequently with you. It is true that the Graces cannot be acquired; art may add to their lustre, but nature must have given them. VOL. IV. the Aa

the same in every thing. How many people are there who dance exceedingly well, but ungracefully; and what numbers who dance very ill, and yet gracefully! Do we not see frequently, people with great and good sense; who, though instructed and adorned by knowledge and study, yet never can please, for want of those natural Graces, not to be acquired?

Every country has talents peculiar to it, as well as fruits, or other natural productions. We here think deeply, and fathom to the very bottom. Italian thoughts are fublime, to a degree beyond all comprehension. You keep the middle path, and conse-

quently are feen, followed, and beloved.

I beg of you, Madam, make use of all that sense, and those Graces, which I know you to be possessed of, in my favour, by telling Mr. de Matignon, whatever they may inspire you, from me. The most friendly things you can say to him upon the marriage of his daughter, will best explain the sentiments of my heart. But do not confine yourself to that circumstance alone, for there is no event whatever that concerns him, in which I should not take an equal share. To write myself to Mr. de Matignon would be incroaching upon his goodness; such a messenger as you, must be more honourable to me, and more pleasing to him.

Adieu, Madam: Jam alhamed of the length of this letter, stoor luisoseq var diseased dilast baA

Add laftre to thine evening cay !

MISCEL LANEOUS PIECES. 1855

the fights in givery thing in How man'd people are there who dance in the west, hungaing windly; and while thinhers who dance very illicand, set grace-

These Lines are inserted, in order to introduce the following

Letter with greater propriety.

August the 7th, 1763.

Reclin'd beneath thy shade, Blackheath!

From politics and strife apart,

His temples twin'd with laurel-wreath;

And virtues smiling at his heart: 10 200 1

f beingpan dd be

To break upon his still retreat? A standard of the street of the standard of the street of the standard of the street of the standard of the s

my heme. But do not confine yourful to that circumbance dement the present akwas sidt saw Tenat concerns true that the present and add the present that the present that the present that the present that the present the present the present that the present the present

May pale disease fly far aloof and or grand of And health beneath thy peaceful roof, and eith.

Add lustre to thine evening ray!

Aa 2

Thefe

If

356 MISCELLANEOUS PIECES.

If this my fervent wish be crown'd,

I'll dress with flow'rs Hygeia's shrine;

Nor thou with wisdom's chaplet bound,

At any absent gift repipe.

What the' thou doft not grace a throne, While fubjects bend the fupple knee; No other King the Muses own, wond ton old to resta And feience lifts her eye to thee. the 7th . But Men as well as Women, are very apt Tho deafners, by a doom fevere, ignorm asord or Steals from thy ear the murm ring rill. And Philomel's delightful air; and the Ev'n deem not this a partial ill. Mufes, who never were very propitious to me when Ah! if anew thine ear was ftrung, bilisval Awake to ev'ry voice around, Thy praises by the many fung, to the many fung, with the choral found, the many fund the choral found. you may very juffly make foctame answer that your EMAHOWING FLORAWGE ING Charles, after the Reflorations the King a suifed him of having made finer verfes in praile of Oliver Cromwell, than of himself, to which he agreed, taying that Fiftion was the food of Poerre san knot generous to help you out to this forage at my own expence? I am for fible, what before I could his lover, I ought to thow. some common-place misselfs at least and protest to you that I am athamed, confounded, and in a RETTELLIBED, by the prairies von male under tervedly

Local Total Editor Control

To Edward Jerningham, Efquire.

Blackheath, August the 12th, 1763.

Ville Subjects bend the supple Last , A 1 8

Do not know whether I can, with decency acknowledge the favour of your poetical letter of the 7th. But Men, as well as Women, are very apt to break through decency, when defire is very strong, as mine I affure you is, to thank you for it. Could I give you as good as you bring, my thanks should be conveyed to you in rhyme and metre: but the Muses, who never were very propitious to me when I was young, would now laugh at, and be as deaf as I am, to the invocation of a septuagenary invalid. Accept then my humblest thanks, in humble profe, for your very good verses, upon a very indifferent fubject; which, should you be reproached with, you may very justly make the same answer that your predecessor, Waller, did to King Charles, after the Restoration: the King accused him of having made finer verses in praise of Oliver Cromwell, than of himself; to which he agreed, saying, that Fiction was the foul of Poetry. Am I not generous to help you out of this scrape at my own expence? I am fenfible, that before I end this letter, I ought to show fome common-place modesty at least; and protest to you that I am ashamed, confounded, and in a manner annihilated, by the praises you most unde-Aa3 fervedly

MISCEULANEOUS PIECES

fervedly bestow upon me; but I will not, because if I did I should he confoundedly; for every human creature has vanity, and perhaps I have full as much as another. The only difference is, that some people disown any, and others avow it; whereas I have truth and impudence enough to say, tu m'aduli ma tu mi piaci.

What am I to suppose that you are now doing in

Scribere quod Cassi Parmensis opuscula vincat, An tacitum sylvas inter reptare salubres?

If you stray among the hills, vales, and purling streams, it is to make your court to the Muses, who have long had such an affection for you, that (I will answer for it) they will meet you wherever you please to appoint them. If to those nine ideal Ladies you add a tenth, of real good country slesh and blood, I cannot help it: but God forbid that I should advise it. In all events, I believe you would be equal to the ten.

medica , medica as greet, at ar my age. I can hope

hgib bo Your most faithful, humble servant, 1 2 101

Cousianareard Rep. You will, perhaps, alk me

P. S. I defire my respects to Lady Jerningham. But not one word of the tenth Muse.

But that I know, is pall, praying for Pechaps you may be in the laine cale. Whom have you

duarrelled with or whom have you been reconciled.



fervedly bestow upon men but I will not bestouse it

creature has vanity and perhaps I have all much as another. The only difference of a o d or

Bath, December the 23d, 1767.

truth and impudence enough to fa, NOTOOD SAAD

OUR friend and my Governor, Mr. W Lotold me that he had received a letter from you, with your kind inquiries after my health; but at the same time said, that I might e'en answer it myfelf; for how the devil should he know how I did. fo well as I myself did? I thought there was reason in what he faid; so take the account of myself from myself, as follows. When I first came here, which was just fix weeks ago, I was very weak of my legs. and am fo still. A fortnight ago I had a little return of my fever, which Doctor Moify called only a Febricula; for which he prescribed phlebotomy. and, of course, the faline draughts. The phiebotomy did me good, and the faline draughts did me no harm, which is all I ask of any medicine, or any My general state of health has, ever fince that, been as good as, at my age, I can hope for; that is, I have a good appetite, a good digeftion, and good fleep. You will, perhaps, ask me what more I would have? I answer, that I would have a great deal more, if I could; I would have the free use of my legs, and of all my members. But that, I know, is past praying for. Perhaps you may be in the same case. Whom have you quarrelled with, or whom have you been reconciled

360 MISCELLANEOUS PIECES.

to lately? The house of G, or the house of M. ? And where are you now; in Norfolk or Monmouthshire? Wherever you are, I hope you are vastly well; for I am, very lincerely,

Your most faithful friend and fervant,

dairagram of ner, but if the is really a distribute the her is food as ever I fee her

R T T T Hat you now make

I won To DAO C'T O'REX M'O'N SE YOU LESY

am turned of feventy-three. As to my body natural, RAY, dear Doctor, why must I not write to Lyou? Do you gentlemen of the faculty presend to monopolize writing in your prescriptions or profcriptions? I will write, and thank you for your kind letters; and my writing shall do no hurt to any person living or dying: let the Faculty say as much of theirs, if they can, I am very forry to find that you have not been vaftly well of late; but it is vastly to the honour of your skill to have encountered and subdued almost all the ills of Pandora's Box. As you are now got to the bottom of it, I trust that you have found Hope; which is what we all live upon, much more than upon Enjoyment; and without which we should be, from our boasted Reason, the most miserable animals of the Creation. I do not think that a Physician should be admitted into the College, till he could bring proofs of his having cured, in his own person, at least four incurable distempers. In the old days of laudable and rational Chivalry, a Knight could not even prefent

fent himself to the adorable object of his affections, till he had been unhorfed, knocked down, and had two or three spears or lances in his body; but, indeed, he must be conqueror at last, as you have been. I do not know your Goddess Venus or Vana, nor ever heard of her; but if she is really a Goddess. I must know her as foon as ever I see her walk into the rooms; for vera inceffu patuit Bea. It is for her take, I prefume, that you now make yourself a year younger than you are; for last year you and I were exactly of an age, and now I am turned of feventy-three. As to my body natural, it is as you faw it last; it labours under no particula diffemper but one, which may very properly be called Chronical, for it is Xeores itself, that daily steals away fome part of me. But I bear with philosophy these gradual depredations upon myself; and well know, that levius fit patientia quiequid corrigere est nefas. And so good night, dear Doctor. Want to estimat to

that you have no 3071, those redmeson, that it is valid to the bonour of your fall to have encountered and inbdued almolf all the ills of Partora's Box. As you are now and to the borrow of it, I all live upon, much more than upon briotyment; all live upon, much more than upon briotyment; antonicolor, of characteristics, of characteristics, of characteristics, of characteristics, and have the creation of the property of the creation of the creation of the creation of the creation of the characteristics of the creation of the characteristics of the creation of the substitute of the characteristics of the could not even present that the could not even present that

that illness, which the fears of Mr. Walsh, junior, had magnified into a dangerous one. I did not like your being fent to Hampstead for the air; that founded very like Kensington Gravel pits. I am fure I need not tell you the part I take in your recovery.

As to General ——'s affairs, my opinion is fixed; and I am very fure, that nothing will appear upon this examination to make me alter it. There is a mystery in it; and wherever there is a mystery, I have done; I respect, but never reason. The Ode upon that expedition is written by a master, whoever it is: the author of the verses upon the scull, is certainly a Poet, though he has spun out his matter too sine; half the length would have been much better. I cannot imagine why the Grub upon the Comet was laid at my door: but people have long thrown out their wit and humour under my name, by way of trial; if it takes, the true father owns his child; if it does not, the foundling is mine.

I take it for granted, that the King of Prussia's victory engrosses the thoughts of all your great politicians in town, and gives you what you call great spirits the has shown his abilities in it a of which I never doubted; but then — nothing, only that there are now seven or eight thousand of the human species less than there were a month ago. France will send double that number immediately, and the match will be as unequal as it was before; since all Europe is still combined against him; I will not say, and as, because I think it would be impudent for us, now,

I might as well reckon myself among the living, who only crawl upon the earth from day to day, exhibiting a shattered carcase, and a weakened mind.

Though these waters always do me some good, it is merely temporary; but they do by no means regenerate me. I grow deafer and deafer, consequently, duller and duller, and therefore, for your sake, I will put an end to this dull letter; and affure you, with all the truth of a man who has no invention, that I am,

Your most faithful, humble servant, que

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nome is a respective to the rest and see

From Lord CHESTERFIELD to Sir T. ROBINSON

the said the sength would have essent the vente.

Always thought myself much obliged to you for your letters from Yorkshire, while you were in the hurry both of business and pleasure; your landssteward, your tenants, and your agreeable country neighbours, employing your whole day in pleasure and profit: but I think myself still more obliged to you for your last letter, from your Monastic retreat in the midst of Ranelagh garden; the place in the world the best calculated for serious reslections upon the vanities of this world, and the hopes of a better. There you may enjoy a philosophical and religious solitude, uninterrupted; except, now and then, by

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the rolling of coaches, the found of forty inftruments of mulic, and the much shriller found of the tongues of about two thousand women. This is being a Chartreux indeed; and in addressing myfelf to you. I will take care to mix no levity in my letter; but confine myself to grave and moral reflections. For instance; see the dire effects of passion, or brandy, or both, in the case of Mr. whose usual tranquillity and immobility have been transported to the most violent excesses, of affault and battery, even upon the wife of his body; whom, I really believe, he never affaulted with fo much spirit before; and if he gets the reputation of madness, he will rather be a gainer by it; for nobody ever thought it could have happened to him. We have here a great many great folks, and a great many fine folks: the former met in Council, to confider how they should best serve their country in the approaching fession; that being their only view: and the latter, I mean the Ladies, in the intention of ferving themselves, or of being served right enough by others. But all these are dispersed. or dispersing, now; and, I believe, I shall follow their example foon, and take myfelf away from hence to London; where I am too material a part of the bufy, as well as of the gallant world, to be longer absent. But, whatever I am wherever I am, I am, very truly, 1900 70

Your very faithful, humble Servant,

CHESTERFIELD,

THE END